

## Fresh role for Conservative headquarters

### Propaganda proposals to be put before Thatcher

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Proposals aimed at transforming Conservative Party headquarters into the nerve centre of the Government's propaganda machine are to be put before the Prime Minister next month.

They envisage a huge shake-up of both the structure and duties of the 140 permanent staff at Conservative Central Office with the bulk of their energies being channelled into campaigning efforts in the Government cause.

Under the plan, the party's considerable reserves of cash and manpower would be concentrated in areas such as advertising, direct mail, computer-aided campaigning, the production and distribution of a national newsletter

and the latest techniques in electronic communications.

The press and media department would be revamped to give it a greater cutting edge and the whole communications effort would be far more tightly controlled from the centre and more responsive to Downing Street.

The upheaval would inevitably lead to staff changes and widespread reorganization of the existing party structure, with many of the old guard being replaced.

The plan is due to be presented to Mrs Margaret Thatcher by Mr Norman

for Central Office amounted to massive change in its underlying philosophy and there were serious doubts whether the party at large and the Prime Minister would be prepared to embrace readily a sudden conversion to the powerful and sophisticated techniques more often associated with American political parties.

One said the aim was to make Central Office the Government's "right hand", springing to its defence in times of political difficulty and bringing all its resources to bear on winning the argument over matters of burning political controversy.

Such an organization would, for instance, be taking a far higher profile in the debate currently raging over the plan to replace rates with the community charge.

Mrs Thatcher's zeal for policy reform has never been matched by a parallel enthusiasm for administrative or organizational change either in Whitehall or Smith Square.

She has tended to favour informal decision-making within the party and has always been wary of giving the party chairman and Central Office sufficient clout and leeway to emerge as a rival power centre to 10 Downing Street.

Such internal tensions were an important factor in the Conservative Party's lacklustre election campaign effort and may lead her to water down or reject outright Mr Tebbit's blueprint.

The Tory chairman's proposals are likely to be viewed with some alarm by party activists, who remain deeply attached to the highly devolved structure of the party under which members join a local constituency association and Central Office's role is broadly that of a long stop.

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Lord Whitelaw, who helped plan the Tory shake-up.

Tebbit, the Tory chairman, shortly after his return from holiday in Devon.

He has drawn it up in consultation with Mr Cecil Parkinson and Lord Whitelaw, two former party chairmen. Mr Peter Morrison, the deputy chairman, Sir Peter Lane, chairman of the National Union Executive Committee, and Lord Goolbsy, chairman of the Scottish Conservatives.

Mr Tebbit is now putting the finishing touches to his report and coming to highly sensitive conclusions about the recommended pace of change within the party.

Party insiders told *The Times* yesterday that the plans

## A new face behind phantom's mask



Dave Willetts, who is to be the new *Phantom of the Opera*, with Sarah Brightman yesterday, who is returning to play the show's heroine, Christine. (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

## Rising star still down to earth

By Lynda Martin, Arts Correspondent

Behind the make-up and the mask, the face of the actor playing the title role in the West End musical *The Phantom of the Opera* remains hidden.

So the fact that Dave Willetts, aged 35, who three years ago was a manager at a Coventry engineering company, was yesterday announced as the successor to the very well-known Michael Crawford matters less than in similar substitutions.

Mr Willetts, currently the lead in another hit show, *Les Misérables*, remained phlegmatic about taking over as the Phantom from October 12.

Already he commutes daily to the West End from his home at Baginbun, Warwickshire, where his wife is a child-minder. He said: "We are both very down to earth people. We are enjoying success while it's here, but we are both well aware it can be whisked away from you as quickly as it's given."

The producers also announced that Sarah Brightman is to return for four weeks from September 21 to the role of Christine. It was written for her by her husband, the show's creator, Andrew Lloyd Webber, and she sang the part for the first six months of the show's West End run.

Miss Brightman, recently underwent an operation for stomach ulcers, but she and Michael Crawford will lead the cast when *The Phantom* opens on Broadway in January.

Mr Willetts was plucked from the obscurity of a cabaret artist after he attended an open audition in London and was selected to understudy Colin Wilkinson in the demanding role of Jean Valjean in *Les Misérables*. He took over that part last October.

His intervention, in the form of radio and television interviews, came only hours after the US Administration had proudly claimed that Kuwaiti oil tankers would be allowed to sail under the British flag.

Sir Geoffrey said the US State Department had recognized that their comments were "ill-founded", and he added: "There is no change and has been no change in British policy."

US officials believed that Britain's apparent change of heart reflected stronger support for President Reagan's policy in the Gulf, but Sir Geoffrey insisted that it remained "a purely administrative matter" when a foreign vessel applied to fly the Red Ensign, and not a matter of political decision.

Asked if Britain intended to follow the US lead and declare a new policy on reflagging, the Foreign Secretary said: "No, there is no question of that. There has been and is to be no change in policy in that respect." He also stressed that Britain's Armilla Patrol only operated in the southern part of the Gulf and escort ships all the way to Kuwait.

But Sir Geoffrey failed to satisfy Mr Denzil Davies, Labour's defence spokesman, who criticized his "hands-off" approach to reflagging. "The British Government should now put an end to the dangerous farce whereby it pretends that applications to reflag Kuwaiti oil tankers ..."

Continued on page 18, col 4

## Arms checks stance eased

By Michael Blyden and Andrew McKewen

American negotiations yesterday put forward revised and far less stringent procedures for verifying compliance with the proposed superpower treaty eliminating medium-range and shorter-range nuclear missiles.

British Government experts said that the changes followed a recognition that there was now much less need for procedures allowing either side to inspect the other's bases at short notice.

This stemmed from Moscow's decision earlier this year to accept the West's proposal that both categories should be eliminated globally, rather than each side retaining 100 medium-range missiles.

It will be far simpler for satellites to confirm that there

are no missiles in the banned categories than to count how many each side has. The original "challenge inspection" proposals assumed that within days of a satellite detecting a suspected infringement, inspectors would have to be given access for on-site checks.

The suggestions - not yet full proposals - submitted at the Geneva talks yesterday do not spell out how much Soviet inspectors will be allowed to see in Britain. British and American senior experts are still holding talks on this.

What is certain is that, because Britain has cruise missile sites at Greenham Common and at Molesworth, Soviet inspectors will have the right to check that they are dismantled.

But it is also assumed that they will be able to demand access at short notice to any other military bases if their satellites suggest that there could be hidden missiles. A major issue now being discussed is whether Britain will be able to reserve any areas.

American reports that Britain and other allies objected to the original proposals on grounds that Soviet access would have been too great were denied yesterday by British and American sources.

They said it had always been envisaged that if Moscow accepted the zero-zero proposals, less verification would be needed.



## Press wins power to fight court bans

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government has been forced to change the law to give the press a statutory right to challenge banning orders made by crown court judges under the Contempt of Court Act 1981.

It has tabled a new clause to the Criminal Justice Bill which would enable the press and other interested parties to go to the High Court for a review of an order prohibiting publication of details in criminal trials.

The change means that for the first time orders made by crown court judges are subject to judicial review.

It comes amid growing concern at the judges' wide discretion to impose bans under the Act and is likely to increase pressure for other crown court decisions, such as sitting in camera, to be subject to the same right of review.

The change, to be debated at the Bill's committee stage in the autumn, comes after a ruling by the European Commission on Human

Rights in a test case brought by Mr Tim Crook, a journalist based at the Central Criminal Court.

Mr Crook, backed by the National Union of Journalists and the National Council for Civil Liberties, took the Government to the European Commission in Strasbourg over the lack of a review procedure for banning orders.

But yesterday Miss Hilary Kitchen, solicitor for the NCCL, said the council had not yet decided whether the change provided the press with an effective right of access to the courts.

It wanted to ensure that the right would not come into use so long after the trial that it was meaningless, because of delays in the civil courts.

The case was brought over an order by Judge Robert Lyndberg QC in January 1984 forbidding the press from publishing the name of a chief

Continued on page 18, col 6

## Reflagging policy 'is unchanged'

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, moved swiftly yesterday to quash any suggestion that Britain had suddenly changed its policy over the reflagging of foreign ships bound for the Gulf.

His intervention, in the form of radio and television interviews, came only hours after the US Administration had proudly claimed that Kuwaiti oil tankers would be allowed to sail under the British flag.

Sir Geoffrey said the US State Department had recognized that their comments were "ill-founded", and he added: "There is no change and has been no change in British policy."

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Continued on page 18, col 4

## British nurse held by Sudan rebels released

By Richard Ford

A British nurse kidnapped and held captive by rebels in Sudan was freed yesterday after being marched miles on foot by her captors to the border with Kenya.

Miss Heather Sinclair, aged 29, was released with three fellow United States relief workers after being held captive for seven weeks by members of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army.

She was flown with her three colleagues to Nairobi, where last night she had a medical check before preparing to return to her family home in Northern Ireland.

Miss Sinclair's father, Mr

Keiso Sinclair, said that in a brief telephone conversation with her parents at their farm in Draperstown, County Londonderry, his daughter had "told us she was very well and had been well treated".

Mr Sinclair said that his daughter, who went to Sudan in February with Tesco Fund, a Christian development agency, and was seconded to Across, an organization that co-ordinates relief agency work, had given him no details of her release.

"We think she will be here before the weekend", he said, adding: "We are very, very relieved."

## 1.3 million voters missing from rolls

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

About 1.3 million eligible voters were unable to vote in this year's General Election because their names were missing from electoral registers in the inner cities.

The reason is the extreme difficulty of ensuring that everyone entitled to vote actually registers with their local authority, according to the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. The problem is worst in properties where there is multi-occupation.

The OPCS calculate that one in six of the adult population in inner cities fails to register. In inner London, up to 17 per cent of eligible voters are excluded from the roll.

Those new figures, the most accurate to date, will fuel arguments about the proposed poll tax. The Government has admitted that lists of poll taxpayers will, at first, rely on electoral registers that the OPCS now says are flawed.

Collecting adequate lists for the new tax is likely to be made difficult by the widespread failure, reported by the OPCS, to answer questionnaires or open the door to canvassers. Its statisticians say their work is an underestimate of those missing from the rolls because many households re-

fused to take part in the study. Yet Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Environment Secretary said recently he hoped the impact of the poll tax would be felt most strongly in inner city areas where Labour local authorities were in power.

A spokesman for the Department of the Environment said yesterday that though the electoral rolls could be used to check poll tax lists, councils were expected to draw up new lists using additional information such as who was using council libraries or applying for home improvement grants.

The OPCS found that in inner London between 12 and 17 per cent of adults (between 350,000 and 500,000 people) were not on registers. Lists outside the capital were more accurate; omissions there ranged from 4 to 9 per cent.

The statisticians found in addition that between 28 and 39 per cent of households, particularly those with more than one family, failed to return the forms many councils send out each year to get information for the electoral roll.

Electoral Registration in inner city areas 1983-84. HMSO £5.40.

## Future looks grim for the Chocolate Express

By Robin Young

British Rail is keen to finish its chocolate drops. It wants to withdraw the two daily trains which run over its shortest branch line, a 330-yard stretch from York station to the tiny terminal at the Rowntree chocolate factory.

The platform at Rowntree Halt, installed in the 1920s, once served hundreds of workers travelling from Doncaster and Selby to the factory. As more and more people turned to buses or cars, the number of passengers dwindled and now the two-coach diesel trains carry only three regular passengers each weekday and five on Fridays.

Consultative Committee for North East England held a public inquiry into the proposal to close the line, and was told that British Rail's revenue from the line's continued existence next year would be just £10. Against that, the cost of maintaining the line when services through York are electrified would be £200,000.

The National Union of Railwaymen and the Railway Development Society were among the five objectors to the closure. They claimed that the trains are little used only because the evening return train terminates at York, leaving Selby and Doncaster passengers with a 25-minute wait for their connection.

to the closure were Miss Amelia Garth, Mrs Caroline Wilson and Miss Beatrice Holy. They regularly use the four-minute train ride to catch their connecting train to Sowerby. They said the bus journey from the factory took 30 minutes and if they caught the bus, they would miss their connection.

The move to close the line was prompted by Rowntree's decision to distribute their confectionery by road rather than rail. Freight from a second factory will end by next year, leaving the branch line and junction redundant save for its exceptionally light passenger traffic.

British Rail says that ending the factory's special workers' train, known locally as the Chocolate Express, will

allow it to remove the junction as part of the modernisation and electrification programme at York. Mr James Towler, a vice-president of the Railway Development Society, argued that it should be maintained, in case freight traffic could be wooed back later.

British Rail said: "Because the halt belongs to the firm, only Rowntree workers are allowed to use the line. Requests for rail enthusiasts' outings have been refused, and it is plain that the line is now completely uneconomical."

Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, is expected to announce a decision on the closure proposal shortly.

## THE TIMES Degree course vacancies

Today's Degree Course Vacancies Service covers medicine, dentistry, subjects related to medicine, and the biological sciences. Page 37

## Exam results

Degrees awarded by the University of Liverpool will be published tomorrow.

## IN PART 2

## Reve's finale

Don Revie's appointment as England football manager promised much, but ended in acrimony. Page 38

## TIMES FOCUS

Rapidly putting the recession behind it, Birmingham is buoyant about its future. Special Report, pages 25-27

## Portfolio

There were four winners of the Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £3,000 yesterday because there was no winner on Monday. Details, page 3. Portfolio list, page 23.

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**Watches of Switzerland**  
The watch shop

LONDON: 16 New Bond St W1; 5 New Bond St W1 (Exclusive Rolex showroom);  
The Swiss Centre W1: 279 Regent St. W1; Tyne, 1 Old Bond St W1;  
22 Royal Exchange EC3; 68-69 Fincham St EC3; 69 Broadgate BA2; 3;  
BIRMINGHAM: 125 New St; BOURNEMOUTH: 6 Westover Rd;  
CAMBRIDGE: 15 Market Hill; MANCHESTER: 17 King St; OXFORD:  
2 Cornmarket St; GLASGOW: 64 Argyll Arcade; EDINBURGH: 127 Princes St;  
CARDIFF: 12 High St.

David Liso







# Sex abuse case boy killed while staying with foster parents

By Peter Davenport

A boy aged two who was taken from his home by social workers after allegations of sexual abuse, has died from extensive internal injuries sustained while in the care of first-time foster parents.

Yesterday senior officials of Leeds Social Services Department were conducting an urgent inquiry and police are treating the case as murder.

The foster father, aged 29, who has been held in prison since Saturday accused of wounding the boy, was yesterday further remanded by magistrates until September 2.

Mr Bernard Aiba, chairman of Leeds City Council's social services committee, promised a full inquiry into the case. He said yesterday: "This is a hideous tragedy. We were trying to make the boy safe by putting him into the care of foster parents and now he is tragically killed."

An initial report is being compiled for the social services committee by Mr Derek James, the department's director.

The inquiry aims to find out if the system of selection, training, assessment and fol-

low-up monitoring of foster parents had been properly observed and to allay any public concern that details of the incident are being hidden.

The boy and his elder brother, aged four, were placed with the same foster parents less than two months ago after the council had secured a care order.

Both boys had been in local authority care for about a year while social workers investigated allegations of sexual abuse within the family. Evidence of abuse was presented to the court before the care order was made.

The foster parents, who have two young children of their own, underwent six months' training before taking the young brothers into their home.

Yesterday Mr Aiba said there was no history of mistreatment of their own children. The boy was taken to hospital last Thursday with extensive injuries, including, it is understood, a fractured skull. He was placed on a life support machine. It was switched off on Sunday when doctors said there was no chance of a recovery.

The boy's brother was immediately taken from the foster home and placed in a council children's home where he has since been seen by his natural parents. They had made no request to have the child back and any such decision would be up to a court, Mr Aiba explained.

The foster father's two children were still living with their mother but it is understood that social workers are investigating to see whether there are any grounds for them to be taken into care.

Leeds City Council's social services department has taken a leading role in publicizing the extent of the child abuse problem.

Although much of the abuse is centred within the family, the problem was highlighted by the exposure of a child sex ring in which children as young as eight years had been selling sex for cash. Dozens of men subsequently appeared before the courts.

Of the 600 youngsters young people annually on the at-risk register in the city, up to two-thirds are sexual abuse cases.

Mr Aiba said that the department believed from research that as many as one in ten young people in the city may have been the victims of sexual abuse, mainly girls and mainly within the family. He said they included two children, both under two years old, who had developed venereal disease after being abused, it was believed, by their father.

Mr Aiba said that the number of cases was so demanding that one of the city's two consultant paediatricians, Dr Jane Wynne, an expert on child abuse, had had to cancel her clinics for physically and mentally handicapped children to cope with the workload, to the distress of their parents.

The city has spent about £300,000 over the past three years on extra resources to cope with the problems of child sexual abuse. However, Mr Aiba said, to tackle such a problem properly and effectively would need extra funding of up to £2 million a year.

There is a tendency now, with so much publicity being given recently to the fact that 85 to 90 per cent of abuse takes place within the home, that complacency about the other dangers is growing, Mr Webster said.

It is unlikely that the child abuse crisis in Cleveland would have happened in Scotland where procedures are more carefully monitored.

A social worker has to obtain a place of safety order after first having discussed the matter with either the police or a doctor. The order must be granted by a justice of the peace.

However, once that order has been granted and a child taken into care, the matter is immediately referred to the reporter of a children's panel. A full hearing is then held.

The review will look at the possibility of allowing children aged 16 and over to refer themselves into care without parental consent.

## Boy artist is offered exhibition



By Ruth Gledhill

Cheerfully displaying the kind of work which has gained him an A grade in his O level art examination is James Schroder of Waterlooville, Hampshire, a talented artist at the age of 11. Now he is setting his sights on the A level examination. When he sat and drew three portraits during much of his early life, his mother knew she had to do something special for him or allow him to drive her mad. She bought him a set of quality chalk crayons

and paints when he was seven. Within hours the boy was happily at work. His next present was an easel. Yesterday he was celebrating his examination success. "I feel very excited about it. I thought I had only got a grade B", he said. James has just been offered a two-week exhibition of 50 of his paintings by the Mountbatten Gallery in Portsmouth. "My favourite work is still life and portraits. I will not be selling any of my work. I have no right to do that, I

feel the first things I do are very important. I will start selling pictures when I am older and need to make a living from painting." His mother, Mrs Anne Schroder, said: "When he was three he did a realistic drawing of Robin Hood. When he was four he started drawing animals. He always seemed to get his drawings exactly right. We thought it was just a fluke at first. He used to create havoc to get attention." (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

## Nurse sets sights on Rome trip

A holiday in Rome is the aim of Miss Jackie Riccietelli, a nurse aged 24, who shares yesterday's £8,000 Portfolio Gold prize with three other winners.

Miss Riccietelli, of Wicklea Road, Southbourne, Dorset, said she will probably wait until next year to get the best of the weather before visiting family friends in the Italian capital.

"I'm absolutely delighted. I have been reading *The Times* for 18 months and have played the game for four or five months. I'm quite a competitive person so I like having a go at these things."

"You never know your luck, as has been proved today. I shall carry on getting the paper and keep trying", she said.

The other winners were Mr Kenneth Frankson, aged 71, a retired Civil Servant, of Manor Drive, Chagford, Devon, who also plans a holiday; Mrs Lyn Wilcomb, aged 34, a mother of four from Newport Pagnall, Buckinghamshire, who has designs on a new car; and Mr John Hopkins, of The Crescent, Louth, Lincolnshire, who has a holiday in the Midlands.

Readers wishing to play the Portfolio Gold competition can obtain a card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,  
The Times,  
Blackburn,  
BB1 6AJ.

## Wife poisoned with Valentine chocolate bar

A man who poisoned his wife with a laced chocolate on St Valentine's Day was jailed for four years yesterday.

Ian Walker, aged 36, of St John, Jersey, dipped a bar of chocolate in caustic soda after a dispute with his wife, Rosemary, revealed the packet and gave it to his wife as she set off on a holiday to Devon, Exeter Crown Court was told.

His wife vomited immediately after eating the chocolate and was treated in hospital for ulcers and mouth burns. Walker admitted poisoning with intent to injure.

## Four fined for cricket brawl

Four men convicted of assaulting police during a drinking session at a Worcestershire county cricket match against Lancashire were fined between £200 and £475 each by Worcester magistrates yesterday.

One man came from Worcester and the others from Winsford, Cheshire.

## Judge held on drugs charge

Syrd Mohammed Jafri Iqbal, a Pakistani judge, aged 37, of Streatham, south-west London, was remanded in custody for a week by Uxbridge magistrates yesterday accused of attempting to smuggle heroin valued at £250,000 at Heathrow Airport on August 23.

## Husband must pay £120,000

A man who said family life ought to be run like the Army was yesterday ordered to pay the balance of a £220,000 divorce settlement.

Mr Derek Allen, aged 64, said his wife, Mary, was a deserter. He has already paid £100,000. The Court of Appeal refused his appeal against paying the rest. His wife aged 56, divorced Mr Allen, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, in 1983.

## Assault over kissogram girl

The head of a topless kissogram agency kicked and punched a rival he accused of poaching his favourite girl. Wolverhampton Crown Court was told yesterday.

Douglas Summerfield, aged 40, of Green Lane, Peckham, West Midlands, admitted assaulting Mr Peter Turley and his wife, Kathleen, who was pushed over and chipped an ankle when she tried to intervene. Summerfield was ordered to pay her £300 compensation and was conditionally discharged for 12 months.

## Bail granted in shares case

A self-employed businessman accused of insider dealing in a company takeover bid elected trial by jury when he appeared at Guildhall Justices Rooms in London yesterday.

Mr Brian Fisher, aged 34, of Bentinck House, Bentinck Street, west London, was accused of insider dealing on the Stock Exchange on December 5 1985, during the takeover of Thompson T-Line Transport Company. He was granted unconditional bail until October 6.

## Children ignoring alert on strangers

Young children and their parents are starting to ignore warnings about strangers, Childwatch, the national anti-child abuse organization, said yesterday.

The school holidays have brought alarming reports about unsupervised young children, some of whom have been approaching adult strangers, a Childwatch spokesman, Mr Bob Webster, said. Recent publicity about sexual abuse within the family could be making parents and children complacent about the danger on the streets.

Mr Webster, deputy headmaster of a junior high school in Hull, said: "Childwatch is alarmed about reports we are receiving which suggest that some parents are failing to supervise young children."

Incidents reported to Childwatch during the school holidays included:

- An unsupervised girl aged three approaching a man walking his dog in a park and asking him if she could go for a walk with them.
- A girl aged five found unsupervised and playing with the hand drier in a man's lavatory in a supermarket.
- A girl of seven approaching a man in the street and asking if he would buy her some sweets.

"There is a tendency now, with so much publicity being given recently to the fact that 85 to 90 per cent of abuse takes place within the home, that complacency about the other dangers is growing", Mr Webster said.

## Scots child care law to be reviewed

By Kerry Gill

The law on child care in Scotland is to be reviewed, Mr Michael Forsyth, the Scottish minister with responsibility for social work, announced yesterday. The main aim is to see how the law can be simplified.

Scotland's system of children hearings, set up in 1971, will continue and is still considered the best way of dealing with children who

need some kind of compulsory care.

It is unlikely that the child abuse crisis in Cleveland would have happened in Scotland where procedures are more carefully monitored.

A social worker has to obtain a place of safety order after first having discussed the matter with either the police or a doctor. The order must be

granted by a justice of the peace.

However, once that order has been granted and a child taken into care, the matter is immediately referred to the reporter of a children's panel. A full hearing is then held.

The review will look at the possibility of allowing children aged 16 and over to refer themselves into care without parental consent.

## Daughter 'hid from Parkinson'

The daughter of Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Energy, stayed in a London squat after collapsing from a heroin overdose because she was terrified her father would find out, a court was told yesterday.

Mr Mark Lewin, charged with possessing heroin worth £1,000 with intent to supply drugs, told Southwark Crown Court in central London that Miss Mary Parkinson, aged 27, stopped breathing for 10 minutes after taking heroin at a flat in Kings Road, Chelsea.

He said he was visiting a friend at the flat when he found her slumped on the bathroom floor and resuscitated her. Later, he took her to a squat when she asked her father should not be contacted.

Mr Lewin, aged 36 and of no fixed address, has denied possessing heroin. The trial continues.

## Professions call for inquiry

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The professions in England and Wales have asked the Government to set up an immediate inquiry into limiting their liability for damages awarded by the courts for negligence.

Their joint call, in a letter to Lord Young of Gifford, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, comes after news that doctors' subscriptions for medical negligence cover are to rise by 87 per cent and solicitors' insurance rates to rise by 35 per cent.

The heads of the professions, who represent solicitors, barristers, consulting engineers, patent agents, architects, chartered surveyors and accountants, say that their "increased exposure to liability" and "the increasing cost and diminishing availability of professional indemnity insurance" must have adverse effects on the services they provide.

It will also affect the usefulness of professionals' advice as they will "seek to provide it in a form that will limit their unreasonable exposure to claims".

Consulting engineers, the professions say, have faced a 150 per cent rise in the cost of insurance cover during the past three years and architects 200 per cent.

The letter, by Mr Alan Hardcastle, chairman of the heads of the professions, comes as doctors are putting increased pressure on the Government to look at a no-fault compensation scheme to deal with medical negligence claims.

Yesterday's call by the heads of the other professions is the group's second request for an inquiry within four months.

A delegation led by Mr Hardcastle put the case to Mr Paul Channon, Lord Young's

predecessor, at the end of April. The minister said then that although the Government still remained to be persuaded, no options had been ruled out.

As a result of rapidly rising costs and amounts borne by the insured before the insurer will meet any claim a number of firms and individuals have deliberately reduced their insurance cover or decided to do without it altogether.

"This increases the risk to professionals' clients, but is an understandable reaction", he says.

The group has the backing of Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, who in a debate in the Lords in March said: "We have extended the liability for negligence to an altogether excessive degree... where, even if there has been an error of judgement or any little mistake or mischance, the law holds the professional man negligent".

## School's siege room to reopen

By David Sapsted

The school classroom where Michael Ryan held police at bay before shooting himself will be opened for classes when the new term starts on September 8.

Mr David Lee, headmaster of John O'Gaunt comprehensive school in Hungerford, met staff and governors yesterday and decided that Room 6 should be opened as normal.

Mr Lee said: "We want things to return to normal as soon as possible. We realize some children may have special problems, but we are geared up to cope with them."

Mr Lee said there will be no special service for the dead when school returns. "A teacher speaking to 30 children in a classroom can get across a message far better than the head talking to 730 children."

## Fund will not pay Ryan's funeral costs

The funeral costs of Michael Ryan will not be paid for out of the Hungerford appeal fund, it was disclosed yesterday.

A spokesman for the fund, which stood at more than £167,000 last night, said it would be "quite inappropriate" to contribute to Ryan's funeral.

His uncle, Mr Stephen Fairbrass, said yesterday that the family would not ask for any money from the fund for burying either Ryan or his mother, Dorothy.

The three fund trustees were named yesterday as Mr Peter Dolphin, chairman of Newbury District Council; Mr Ken Culley, chief executive of the West of England Building Society; and Mr Gerald Ward, a Hungerford businessman.

## Town on verge of nervous breakdown

By David Sapsted

Hungerford, which today buries the first of its dead, was yesterday described as "a town on the verge of a nervous breakdown".

The head of a social service unit set up to help people over the emotional problems arising from last week's massacre said that more than 100 calls for assistance had already been received, many from people who had no direct association with the shooting.

Leaflets are to be distributed to every home in Hungerford by Berkshire social services telling the 5,000

residents where they can turn for help.

Mr Malcolm Ariotti, a spokesman for the council, said yesterday: "The message coming back to us from shop owners is that Hungerford is on the verge of a nervous breakdown."

Mr John Smith, co-ordinator of the family help unit set up in the wake of the shooting, said the counselling might take a year or longer. Group therapy sessions were being considered, he said, and added that he had asked social workers in Wiltshire, from where the family of Michael Ryan came, to help them to overcome their "shock and bewilderment".

Mr Smith added: "What we are likely to see in Hungerford is the manifestation of fear, helplessness, sadness, longing, guilt, shame and anger. What we have to get across is that there is nothing abnormal about this."

Counselling sessions are also being held for Hungerford's young people. Mrs Elizabeth Capewell, a youth and community officer, said yesterday that the John O'Gaunt youth centre - adjacent to the school where Ryan killed himself - would be open during the next three days to children who "just want to come in and talk".

## Help for Hungerford

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Britain's gun laws are tighter than those of many countries, a survey of foreign embassies and correspondents abroad disclosed yesterday.

Switzerland: Authorization is needed to buy or carry arms, such as hunting guns, pistols and revolvers. Automatic weapons are seldom allowed in private hands.

But military duties mean that there are several hundred thousand guns in Swiss households.

Israel: Carrying a gun in an Israeli street is so common that nobody pays any attention, but those who carry them do so within set rules and procedures which can be checked at any time.

For the most part, they are service men with the right to take their weapons home. Since almost every adult male under the age of 35 does a month's compulsory military service each year, at some stage everyone has the right to carry a gun.

More controversially, those who live in West Bank settlements can easily obtain permission to carry a gun and frequently do so.

The Netherlands: Only sporting guns and hunting

weapons are sold to the public and only on proof of membership of a gun club. No automatic weapons are available to the public.

Soviet Union: The law allows only people with a special licence to possess a gun. These include hunters who have to pass regular tests of marksmanship and eyesight. This has not prevented the use of guns in crime.

France: French regulations on the possession of firearms date from 1983, when stringent controls were enforced in the wake of a wave of terrorist attacks in Paris carried out by Middle East extremists.

Requests for the possession of guns are followed up by investigations by the police. Permits are valid for five years.

Spain: Officially, there are about 15,000 Spaniards out of a population of more than 38 million, who are licensed to carry arms, including revolvers, rifles and pistols, and, naturally, excluding the security services. It is illegal to sell such weapons over the shop counter without a licence. But any Spaniard aged over 18, may apply for permission.

## Increased sale orders for Kalashnikov rifle

By Andrew Morgan

British gun dealers are still ordering the Chinese Kalashnikov from the country's sole importer a week after Michael Ryan used one during the killing of 16 people in Hungerford.

Mr Mick Ranger, the arms dealer who imported the Chinese type 56 semi-automatic rifle sold to Ryan, said he had sold 12 similar weapons to shops since the massacre.

Of these, eight had been ordered before the Berkshire tragedy, but dealers had subsequently confirmed the orders, confident they would be able to sell them before any possible announcement from Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

A further four rifles were ordered at the weekend from other dealers, but none was in the Berkshire area.

Mr Ranger said that the rise in sales of the guns, which are offered for £295 in the *Gun* magazine, was "pure coincidence" not linked to an unhealthy interest. Mr Ranger has about 70 such rifles on his Hertfordshire premises, as well as a number of other semi-automatic weapons, including Chinese M16s.

Mr Ranger said sales of semi-automatic pistols were also buoyant. He said that if Mr Hurd tightened laws on the possession of such weapons, he would try to step up his type 56 exports.

Mr Ranger became the UK's importer of type 56s after a Belgian agency went into liquidation. He deals directly with the Chinese manufacturers, Norinco in Canton.

At Intergun Ltd, gun importers based near Truro, Cornwall, Mrs Jo Roberts, who runs the business with her husband, Peter, said there is concern that Mr Hurd might include the pump action shotgun in tightened gun laws.

Intergun sells several thousand American Mossberg shotguns each year. Three months ago, they began to import American Marlin semi-automatic rifles, used in hunting, and have sold 350.

Mrs Roberts said: "If Mr Hurd included pump action shotguns in his new laws, then we would either have to look to other guns or, indeed, another business. Hungerford was tragic but we are hoping Mr Hurd is not carried along on a wave of emotion. British gun laws are still the toughest in Europe."

## Family on ferry told of tragedy

By Howard Foster

A family who lost two relatives in the Hungerford massacre yesterday described their shock when fellow British tourists on board a cross-Channel ferry told them about the 16 killings.

Mr Malcolm Bray and his wife Pat were returning from France when they were shown a newspaper photograph of their son-in-law and his family emerging from a church service held in Hungerford.

The son-in-law, Mr Colin Mason, lost both his parents during Michael Ryan's rampage.

The Brays - who cut short their touring holiday because their daughter was suffering from sunstroke - had seen no newspapers or television while abroad.

They left behind in France their elder daughter Linda and son-in-law Mr Kevin Drinkwater who were yesterday believed to be in Monaco, unaware that Ryan had burnt down their home.

Mr Bray said: "We boarded the ferry on Monday evening and fell into conversation with some other British people. When we mentioned Hungerford, everybody said: 'Oh, where the massacre was? How awful for you.'"

"They showed us a British newspaper and we recognized our son-in-law and our family in a picture on the front page."

The Brays were then put through on a ship-to-shore telephone line to relatives.

The row of burnt-out houses where Michael Ryan shot his mother and killed her neighbours, Rowland and Sheila Mason, will be bulldozed as soon as the Drinkwaters return from holiday and give their permission. Newbury District Council said yesterday.

The council owns the terraced row, with the exception of the Drinkwater home.





## BRITISH ASSOCIATION

Reports by Pearce Wright  
and Thomson Prentice

## Aids and herpes

Search for cure could use  
'super race' techniques

The search for a cure for Aids, herpes and other viral diseases could lead to genetic manipulation of the type that scientists would employ to produce a "super race" of people, a drug company expert told the British Association meeting in Belfast yesterday.

The goal of selecting and removing specific human genes linked to the diseases in infected individuals would raise serious ethical and moral questions "perhaps as difficult to answer as those relating to Aids itself", Dr Michael Hall said.

"It would mean that we could manipulate at will the human genetic pool, produce super races, modify ethnic traits, excise socially unacceptable habits - in fact produce people to order."

Although such advances could help to eliminate some inherited diseases, Dr Hall added: "The potential for abuse is real and there must be many who hope that such technologies are never developed."

Dr Hall, head of the chemotherapy division of the Roche Products pharmaceutical company, at Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, was talk-

ing on the prospects for effective drugs against Aids, herpes and other diseases caused by viruses.

He said this "brave new world" might never happen, but it could result from the rapid development of genetic engineering techniques. More realistically, the advances were likely to lead to more effective drugs against Aids.

"Ten or 15 years ago, these techniques were unavailable and we would have been

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almost helpless in the face of the advance of Aids. At least we can now see and understand the enemy as the first step in its defeat."

Among the many thousands of viruses which cause several hundred human diseases the Aids-causing human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) was probably now the best understood only five years after it was first identified, Dr Hall said.

The catalyst for this "explosive growth of knowledge" was the sociological and economic concern about the epidemic spread of the disease.

Advances in genetic engineering had given greater insights into viral molecular biology than could have been imagined 10 years ago. The result was that anti-viral drug research had been catapulted from "a relatively minor and somewhat leisurely pursuit", to the top priority of many drug companies and research institutes around the world.

"In certain respects progress has been spectacular."

However, the herpes and Aids viruses were among the most complex and sophisticated, posing huge problems for drug development. They were able to invade the body's nervous system and lie dormant for years if not for the lifetime of the infected individual. Both could hide within human cells, inducing disease from entrenched positions.

Drugs developed to treat herpes in the past 10 years had been unsuccessful either because of their unexpected toxicity or their lack of activity. In addition the arrival of the Aids epidemic had diverted a very significant part of the scientific effort away from herpes drug development, Dr Hall said.

While there was "very real hope" of producing drugs to control the symptoms of herpes and Aids infection by preventing or depressing the rate of virus multiplication in the body, the latency of the viruses was still the biggest problem, he said.

The search for a herpes vaccine had failed in spite of 66 years of research. The Aids virus was presenting "unexpectedly difficult problems", he said. "It is too soon to say if an HIV vaccine safe enough for widespread use can be developed but the prospects look some years away."

Meanwhile, mankind would have to learn to live with Aids and herpes in the hope that public education and prevention measures would contain the "alarming increase" in new patients and carriers.

In the case of Aids, drugs now being developed would reduce the infectiousness of those people with the disease and hence its spread. "It is here that the efforts of chemists are truly at the leading edge in the battle for health, not just in Britain but in the world as a whole", Dr Hall said.



Professor Michael Crawford, yesterday advocating the benefits of eating fish - see evolution, below.

## Heart disease

Plea for campaign  
to warn people of  
deadly menace

Coronary heart disease is killing more people than the great medieval plagues did, but the Government is doing little to reduce the death toll, a leading specialist said yesterday.

About 150,000 people die prematurely in Britain each year from heart conditions, but the incidence of the disease could be reduced by two-thirds through effective prevention campaigns, Dr Michael Scott said.

However, while other countries such as the United States, Australia and Finland have been running successful prevention campaigns for many years, Britain "has just awakened to the need for action", he said.

"One might think that with the recognition of the huge death toll and with our existing knowledge about the important causes of coronary heart disease, prevention would long have been an issue of national importance", Dr Scott said. "Incredibly, the Government has until recently done little but deliberate about prevention."

Dr Scott is consultant cardiologist at Belfast City Hospital. Northern Ireland has the world's highest death rate from heart disease and Britain as a whole is among the worst affected nations.

Dr Scott called for a long-term, two-pronged national campaign aimed at both the

"high risk" groups - those affected by smoking, diet, high blood pressure and a family history of heart disease - and the general population.

Such a campaign would be costly, but the Government had consistently spent less than 1 per cent of the health service budget on prevention, while the cost of treating coronary disease in England and Wales alone was £390 million two years ago, he said.

Dr Scott quoted the World Health Organization view that in the past 50 years heart disease had become the "greatest world-wide epidemic ever to sweep the earth".

"This is now killing more people than did the great plagues of the Middle Ages."

If cigarette smoking could be eliminated, the incidence of the disease would fall by one third. A modest drop in the whole population's blood pressure and cholesterol levels could lead to a further one-third reduction in incidence.

"Ultimately the Government bears some responsibility for the health of its citizens. This is normally discharged through the health and social services. However, I believe everyone who is qualified should be involved. This includes schools, places of employment and places where people go for recreation", Dr Scott said.

A serious side to  
laughter  
Conference  
news  
in brief

Laughter is an essential, as well as the best, medicine if the latest ideas of Dr Jonathan Miller are any guide.

In a customarily breathtaking performance, Dr Miller made a fleeting return to science yesterday, engaging a packed audience of the British Association on a "serious laughing matter".

He was introducing a two-day meeting on the science of humour. In an argument packed with anecdotes from his years with *Beyond the Fringe*, in medical practice and as a theatrical producer, he argued that laughter has a "biological pay-off" for the individual.

Rejecting the theory of laughter as a release for pent-up emotions, he saw humour as a mental "sabbatical".

He gave the example of a cartoon showing two explorers in Africa, in pith helmets, up to their necks in a swamp. The caption was "Quicksand or not, Carruthers, I've half a mind to struggle". In the item on civil defence, the comedian, Dudley Moore, planted in the audience, asked: "Following the nuclear holocaust, how long will it take for public services to be resumed?" The answer was "After Armageddon, as soon as possible, but it will be a bit of a skeleton service".

Another side of humour comes from an international survey by Professor Christie Davies, a Welsh sociologist, of the "Irish Joke Phenomenon". In fact, he says there is no Irish joke; it is an international one.

His studies show that in days when people had a local rather than an ethnic identity, jokes about stupidity were told about the inhabitants of particular "fooltowns" or villages.

The use of an ethnic group to introduce the stupidity into a script is ideal for a comic to convey just the right amount of information.

If a joke begins: "Two morons were travelling on a train..." the idea of stupidity is introduced too obviously at the beginning of the joke.

## Evolution

Diet theory in the  
advance of man

Mankind learnt to think big by eating fish. The brainpower that separates Homo sapiens from the apes was the result of diet, a new theory says.

The key role that minerals and other nutrients played in human evolution was outlined by Professor Michael Crawford, of the Institute of Zoology in London, at the conference.

He said the signposts had become obvious from studies of nutrition and health problems in western and Third World countries. In technically advanced countries, one in three or four men will have a heart attack or stroke before the age of retirement. In developing countries, about 12 million children will die in 1987 from nutrition-related diseases.

Understanding the effects of nutrition had changed some views of evolution, he said.

He described the formation of life on earth when all developing organisms enjoyed a rich chemical environment. The struggle for survival came in a later phase when specific resources on which evolution depended became scarce.

Professor Crawford said the chemistry of savannah species showed they were faced with progressive deficiencies in nutrients necessary for the development of the brain.

Although they evolved into larger and larger animals, the trend in body size was associated with a contraction in the relative size of the brain.

By contrast, evolving man occupied areas bordering seas and lakes, providing him with an abundance of the specialized chemicals required for brain construction, including polyunsaturated fats, from fresh fish and shellfish.



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## WORLD SUMMARY

## Dali works may be given to Spain

Madrid — Captain Peter Moore, Salvador Dali's former agent, intends to give Spanish museums about 300 works of art by the surrealist master, including 40 oil paintings (Richard Wiswiler writes). He said yesterday that because he and his Swiss wife, Catherine, have no immediate heirs it seemed logical to place the paintings where they would be most accessible to art lovers in Spain.

Captain Moore, an Irishman aged 69, who worked for the 83-year-old Catalan painter between 1960 and 1975, said his private collection stored in Geneva had been insured with Lloyds for \$5 million (£3 million) for a recent tour.

The paintings ranged over many years, he said, from a view of Cadagues painted in the 1920s to a 1975 portrait of King Juan Carlos and original drawings for *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Thousand and One Nights*.

## Elba jail revolt

Rome (AP) — Eight armed prisoners took over the prison director and 16 others yesterday on the Italian island of Elba, the Justice Ministry reported.

The prisoners, armed with pistols and knives, apparently seized from guards, threatened to kill their hostages if their demand for an armoured car was not met, a spokesman said.

After an urgent Cabinet meeting, the spokesman said the Government would try to settle the revolt "through persuasion and reason". The prison, which has 400 inmates, was ringed by police and the 86-square-mile island was surrounded by police motorboats.

## Yard sends more men

Colombo — More Scotland Yard detectives are due in Sri Lanka this week to assist with police investigations into the attempted assassination of President Jayawardene on August 18, the Communist Party daily *Aththa* reported yesterday (Vijitha Yapa writes). Two people were killed and 15 injured when two grenades were thrown at a meeting of the Government parliamentary group in Parliament last week. A member of the housekeeping section of Parliament, Mr S. Ransinghe, has been missing since the attack.

## Bofors to tell all

Stockholm (Reuters) — The Swedish Government, facing mounting criticism over the Bofors guns deal with India, pledged yesterday to make public all aspects of the controversial affair.

"There will be a thorough and public wash of all dirty linen in the weapons deal," Mr Sten Andersson, the Foreign Minister, wrote in the daily *Dagens Nyheter*.

Sweden's Prime Minister, Mr Ingvar Carlsson, has been under Indian pressure to investigate allegations that Bofors bribed Indian officials to win the £736 million contract.

## Lesbian minister

Washington — A United Methodist Church jury has suspended until June a lesbian minister found guilty of violating the church's ban on homosexual clergy (Christopher Thomas writes).

The Rev Rose Mary Dennman, right, aged 40, who had faced possible dismissal from her post in Dover, New Hampshire, said before the most lenient ruling possible that she intended to leave the church whatever the outcome.

## Arab League asks UN to push for Gulf peace

The League of Arab States yesterday called on the United Nations Security Council to take urgent steps to ensure the implementation of its resolution calling for a ceasefire in the war between Iran and Iraq.

In a resolution adopted at a closing plenary session after a three-day meeting in Tunis, League foreign ministers "invited" Iran to respond to peace appeals "and accept a settlement of the conflict by peaceful means, in conformity with the UN resolution demanding a ceasefire".

After threatening an Arab diplomatic boycott of Iran, the meeting finally decided to leave the crisis in UN hands.

Iraq has accepted Security Council Resolution 598 but Tehran's responses have been equivocal.

In New York the resolution was discussed by Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Muhammad Jawad Larajani, and the UN Secretary-General, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar.

The full list of Arab League members is Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen Arab Republic, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. Egypt's membership of the league was suspended in March 1979.

## Journalists battle for a scoop in war of logistics

Christopher Morris of the BBC describes it as "a highly competitive situation". David Phillips of the American NBC television network refers to it more aggressively as "a logistics war".

For the crews of the American, British and Soviet warships in the Gulf, whose movements are tracked by the television companies almost as earnestly as they are by the Iranian Navy, it must seem a little like a conflict in miniature, albeit one in which they are only peripherally involved.

But the media war in the Gulf — between the big American television networks and, to a somewhat more humble extent, between the BBC and ITN — is real enough.

British and American film crews are now flying over the Gulf and the waters off Fajrabad in up to 10 helicopter sorties a day, maintaining two crews in two supply ships to follow the Ameri-

## Jewish suspicion of 'dangerous' neo-Nazi fringe

By Andrew McEwen and John England

Outfitted and deprived of a token, West German neo-Nazis appeared yesterday to have lost the first round of their fight to transform the death of Rudolf Hess into the rebirth of an ideology.

But the events of Wunsiedel have left a suspicion that they have been dismissed too quickly as a lunatic fringe.

Mr Arich Handler, a leading member of the British Jewish community, told *The Times*: "Their slogans are falling on very receptive ears. The Western powers will have to be extremely careful how they deal with them. One has to be sure that the public in Germany realizes that there is a continuing danger."

That risk may have been underestimated because of a superficially reassuring report from Bonn's Interior Ministry, which put the number of actively militant neo-Nazis at 1,460.

"Those are only the people who have the courage of their convictions to register," said Mr Handler, himself a German-born Jew who in 1938 and 1939 took part in the

evacuation of 10,000 young Jewish people to Britain.

Come down one level from the active militants, and the numbers multiply by 15. The same Bonn report showed a total of 73 neo-Nazi or extreme right-wing organizations with a total membership exceeding 22,000.

There are groups which, although not outwardly political, are seen as potentially receptive, including elements within some, but not all, ex-servicemen's groups.

"There are still those who defend the old values," said Mr Handler, a former chairman of the National Council for Soviet Jewry.

West Germany's neo-Nazis are divided among themselves and politically marginal. But the same could have been said of the tiny German Workers' Party in 1919, before it became the Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei (hence Nazi).

None of those urging vigilance suggests that an Adolf Hitler clone is waiting to repeat his feat of winning six

million votes in the 1930 election.

But an articulate young man wearing a tie and with neat short hair was telling anyone who would listen in Wunsiedel this week: "We are against parliamentary democracy. We want a strong leader at the

head of a totalitarian state, and we want the restoration of the *Grossdeutsches Reich*, including South Tyrol and Austria."

"We are proud of those who have been arrested here: they show the strength of their convictions."

The man, who refused to give his name, was accompa-

nied by an intimidating "minder" and came from Munich, where so many people responded to Hitler's sharpening of the Germany Workers' Party's woolly mix of nationalism and socialism.

The contrast between such men and the leather-jacketed

skinheads who surround them broadly parrots the master-servant relationships of their mentors. Hitler viewed himself as an intellectual and artist, but relied on the muscle-power of dimmer men.

With their bare skulls, "bovver boots", and Nazi emblems, the skinheads par-

aded the bully boys who fought for power on the streets in the 1920s and early 1930s. There are about 2,500 of them, though the Bonn report says that only about 200 can be considered real neo-Nazis.

But they are vicious enough to injure and maim. Skinheads killed a young Turk in Hamburg last year, and four others are now on trial in Hanover accused of murdering one of their own.

Last year 77 acts of violence were attributed to neo-Nazi or extreme right groups, six more than in 1985.

Two neo-Nazi leaders have served prison sentences recently. Perhaps the most notorious of them, Karl-Heinz Hoffmann, founded a paramilitary group modelled on the Hitler Youth.

A spokesman for the Board of Deputies of British Jews said yesterday: "The numbers may be small but they are dangerous. There have been rumours for years that if Hess died in prison rather than as a free man they would take revenge."

"It needs to be remembered that Hess was Hitler's nomi-

nated successor and it was to him that the neo-Nazis looked for inspiration."

The largest group is the Deutsche Volks Union, which is less extreme than most others. It has about 12,000 members and is followed by the "middle aged" neo-Nazi National Democratic Party, with a now-static membership of 6,100.

The NPD, seen by the new

hard men as having gone soft, did well in local elections 10 years ago, especially in Bavaria, where it polled up to 10 per cent. It then went downhill rapidly, and in recent years, including in federal polls, it has usually turned in only about 0.1 per cent.

The neo-Nazis are always trying to recreate Hitler's success as a propagandist. The Interior Ministry says that right-wing groups print 92 publications with a combined issue of 8.1 million copies.

Much of the content would get Hitler's approval. The ministry report commented: "The militant groups accept the use of force as a legitimate means of achieving their goals."

## Saudiis launch harsh attack on Iran in aftermath of Mecca

From Marie Colvin, Jeddah

Saudi Arabia refused to back down from confrontation with Iran yesterday, holding a news conference unprecedented in this usually very closed country and offering harsh denunciations of Iran.

It was the Saudi shot in a media campaign aimed at countering Iran's charges that Saudi Arabia was responsible for the deaths of more than 300 pilgrims at Mecca in July.

Yesterday's press conference was arranged after Iran last week invited in foreign journalists to give its version of the Mecca events. Iran claims that the pilgrims, including 275 Iranians, were killed when Saudi police opened fire. The Saudis deny a shot was fired. The Saudis rarely take a confrontational position, but after the Mecca riot they have evidently decided there is no more accommodating Ayatollah Khomeini's regime.

The two could not be more at odds. Not only are they rivals for power in the Gulf but the Ayatollah wants to spread his brand of Shia revolutionary Islam, anathema to the conservative and Sunni Muslim house of Saud.

The Mecca riot was a watershed. Yesterday Prince Nayef bin Abdul Aziz, the Interior Minister, denounced Iran. He reiterated Saudi Arabia's claim that the Iranian pilgrims in Mecca provoked the confrontation on direct orders from Iran.

The Prince revealed for the first time that the Saudis had tried to work out a compromise even though they had political demonstrations at Mecca. He said they were given the word of Ayatollah Khomeini's representative in

Mecca that if a demonstration was allowed it would stop before a "red line" short of the Holy Mosque. Only when the Iranians tried to enter the Mosque did the Saudi guards move to stop them, he said.

The Interior Minister did not hesitate to put Allah on the side of the Saudi regime.

Dubai — High winds, heat haze and sandstorms blowing across the Gulf of Oman yesterday hid the movement of America's latest convoy in the Gulf (Robert Fisk writes). But three US-flagged Kuwaiti tankers — the 290,085-tonne *Middleton*, the 81,283-tonne *Surf City* and the 79,999-tonne *Chesapeake City* — were reported earlier to be making their way under naval escort towards the Strait of Hormuz from the anchorage off Fajrabad.

The US Navy, which escorted the mine-damaged supertanker *Bridgeton* — with only 60 per cent of its normal oil capacity — through the Strait to the Gulf of Oman yesterday, says that another voyage up to Kuwait, Iranian leader does not extend as far as the anchorage, and the convoys are keeping radio silence.

He said: "The Iranian regime masterminded the bloody sedition in the Holy Sanctuary, the seditions which Allah helped us to put out and spare the Mecca pilgrims."

"Iran has misinterpreted the Kingdom's display of patience as weakness," he said.

Asked about Iranian threats, he said: "We are sure Iran does not want to go to war with Saudi Arabia," firmly indicating that Saudi Arabia was ready to do just

that should it have to defend itself against Iran.

And, in what observers here said was one of the strongest statements made by a Saudi official, he said: "The Kingdom hopes, praise to God, to remove from Iran the authority that sends the people of Iran to their deaths." That directly mirrored Ayatollah Khomeini's call to "uproot the Saudi regime" because of its role in Mecca.

The partisan audience of mostly Arab journalists applauded when the Prince said Iran should be fighting Israel, not another Islamic nation, Iraq. And there was clapping again when he said no mediation was going on between Iran and Saudi Arabia. There have been press reports of behind-the-scenes mediating by Syria.

The Saudi's are taking Iran's threats as a direct challenge. The Prince said he thought Iran's short-term aim in provoking the Mecca riot was to prove that the ruling family could not guarantee the safety of the mosques in Medina and Mecca, Islam's two most holy places.

PARIS: Mme Paul Torri, the wife of the French consul who has been accused by Iran of espionage, returned to Paris yesterday with her 2½-month-old baby, after being held in the French Embassy in Tehran for nearly two months (Diana Geddes writes).

However, French diplomatic sources indicated yesterday that Mme Torri's release did not hold out any new hope for an early end to the stalemate. Nine French citizens with diplomatic passports are still imprisoned in the Tehran Embassy.

## Hostage pleads for a swap

From John England, Bonn

mad Ali Hamadei after liquid explosives were found in his baggage on his arrival from Lebanon. They said they would be held until Bonn freed Mr Hamadei.

The United States pressed Bonn to extradite him for trial for hijacking a TWA airliner in 1985 and the murder of an American passenger, but Bonn refused in one case that Mr Hamadei would face trial in Frankfurt charged with air piracy and murder as well on the explosives count.

Herr Schmidt, bearded and with his head shaven, said on his four-minute tape, which was dated July 23, that it was a "positive action" by the kidnappers in response to Bonn's decision not to extradite Mr Hamadei. He pleaded with the Government to give serious

consideration to exchanging him for Mr Hamadei.

Security sources in Bonn said yesterday that there was definitely no chance that the Lebanese would be swapped for Herr Schmidt. "Hamadei is going on trial here," they insisted.

The video appeal came as Herr Heinz Fiedler, a Middle East expert in the West German Foreign Ministry, prepared to fly to Damascus on Friday for what are described as "normal bilateral consultations" with Syrian Government ministers, but are expected to be talks on the West German hostages.

Reports have said that Herr Fiedler will also visit Beirut and Tehran in an attempt to win freedom for the captives.

## Talks start in black mine strike

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

The first move towards conciliation in South Africa's two-week strike at its most valuable gold and coal mines came yesterday when the Chamber of Mines, the employers' body, and the black National Union of Mineworkers met here.

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the union's leader, said the strike had not been called off, but progress had been made. Both sides agreed to meet again today for further negotiations on the strike, which has hit at least 44 of the 99 mines that are members of the chamber.

At least six people have been killed and nearly 400 injured during the strike. According to the union, about 200 others have been arrested, most of them union officials, in incidents in which the regular police have gone to the aid of mine security units.

The talks at the Chamber of Mines headquarters in Johannesburg yesterday were besieged by about 250 striking miners. Strikers from the Randfontein Estates gold mine, east of Johannesburg, and the Western Deep Levels mine arrived by busloads.

There were tense scenes as the city's traffic police — a municipal force totally separate from the regular police — moved in to try to control the ensuing chaos in the streets.

However, as the miners gathered and chanted slogans, the traffic police, through a mixture of gentle persuasion and tact, persuaded them to disperse.

It was an object lesson in how so many other instances of confrontation between the authorities and the volatile black majority should have been handled in the last two years.

## Reagan questions Managua's intent

From David Gollob, Managua

President Reagan, in a rare radio broadcast to Nicaragua on Monday night, voiced scepticism about the willingness of the Sandinista Government to comply with the peace pact signed in Guatemala this month, which carries the obligation of a restoration of democratic freedom.

But the speech, in English with Spanish translation, was jammed by the Nicaraguan authorities. Few people are likely to have heard the programme, carried on Radio Libération, the station run by the Contras with funds approved by the US Congress.

Mr Reagan, who promised to continue supporting the Contras until Nicaraguans "are guaranteed basic liberties", said the hopes kindled by the peace agreement "will be measured against reality" and that "promises will be measured against peace".

He added: "The Sandinistas have agreed that the repression must stop at the same time as the fighting stops. The Sandinistas have told us that before, but no one believes them any more."

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The Nicaraguan Government has repeatedly accused the US, which did not sign the

Guatemala pact, of seeking to obstruct the peace process. It is likely to view the broadcast of a speech by Mr Reagan on a Contra-run radio station as provocative.

Radio Libération broadcasts daily from a 15,000-watt transmitter thought to be in neighbouring El Salvador. Its programmes — a mix of news, light entertainment and propaganda — is normally jammed in the capital. But reception in the countryside is normally good.

The state-controlled media have recently launched a campaign accusing diplomats at the US Embassy in Managua of recruiting Nicaraguan journalists to send news despatches to Radio Libération. North American officials have denied the charges.

WASHINGTON: The Nicaraguan Government was accidentally forewarned by the White House of Mr Reagan's broadcast over the Contras' radio station, giving the Sandinistas ample time to set up jamming equipment (Christopher Thomas writes).

Mr Martin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, announced at a press briefing in Washington, saying the broadcast was still to be delivered and that the Nicaraguans would almost certainly jam it. It was decided to go ahead with it anyway. "I got the day wrong and simply made a mistake in announcing it," Mr Fitzwater said.

## Space bid by black woman



Dr Mae Jemison, the first black American woman to be chosen as an astronaut candidate, inside a space shuttle trainer at the Johnson Space Centre in Houston yesterday. She was one of 15 new candidates presented to the press before starting their training programme.

## Central America peace pact

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

The first move towards conciliation in South Africa's two-week strike at its most valuable gold and coal mines came yesterday when the Chamber of Mines, the employers' body, and the black National Union of Mineworkers met here.

Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the union's leader, said the strike had not been called off, but progress had been made. Both sides agreed to meet again today for further negotiations on the strike, which has hit at least 44 of the 99 mines that are members of the chamber.

At least six people have been killed and nearly 400 injured during the strike. According to the union, about 200 others have been arrested, most of them union officials, in incidents in which the regular police have gone to the aid of mine security units.

The talks at the Chamber of Mines headquarters in Johannesburg yesterday were besieged by about 250 striking miners. Strikers from the Randfontein Estates gold mine, east of Johannesburg, and the Western Deep Levels mine arrived by busloads.

There were tense scenes as the city's traffic police — a municipal force totally separate from the regular police — moved in to try to control the ensuing chaos in the streets.

However, as the miners gathered and chanted slogans, the traffic police, through a mixture of gentle persuasion and tact, persuaded them to disperse.

It was an object lesson in how so many other instances of confrontation between the authorities and the volatile black majority should have been handled in the last two years.

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## Reagan questions Managua's intent

From David Gollob, Managua

President Reagan, in a rare radio broadcast to Nicaragua on Monday night, voiced scepticism about the willingness of the Sandinista Government to comply with the peace pact signed in Guatemala this month, which carries the obligation of a restoration of democratic freedom.

But the speech, in English with Spanish translation, was jammed by the Nicaraguan authorities. Few people are likely to have heard the programme, carried on Radio Libération, the station run by the Contras with funds approved by the US Congress.

Mr Reagan, who promised to continue supporting the Contras until Nicaraguans "are guaranteed basic liberties", said the hopes kindled by the peace agreement "will be measured against reality" and that "promises will be measured against peace".

He added: "The Sandinistas have agreed that the repression must stop at the same time as the fighting stops. The Sandinistas have told us that before, but no one believes them any more."

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## Pretoria worries about prison deaths

## Move to free guerrilla chief fuels Mandela speculation

From Nicholas Beeston, Cape Town

The South African Government is considering the imminent release of an ageing black guerrilla leader from prison, fuelling speculation in government and diplomatic circles that President Botha is exploring ways of freeing the African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela.

Sources indicated this week that Govan Mbeki, aged 76, a leader of the military wing of the ANC, Umkhonto we Sizwe, will be freed from prison possibly in the coming weeks and probably before the end of the year.

Mbeki, who has been serving a life sentence since 1963, is a contemporary of Mandela's and diplomatic sources said his release "could be a test case" for Mandela.

"It is clear that the Govern-

ment is very anxious to release Mandela, but they are still trying to find ways of doing it," one Western diplomat said in Cape Town.

In the past, South Africa has made Mandela's release conditional on his renouncing violence. But during President Botha's Budget speech earlier this month he said such a condition was not "decisive in its own right".

In Mbeki's case, the Government is known to be concerned about his failing health and is worried about a backlash at home and abroad if he dies in prison.

The fears are even greater for Mandela, aged 69, who has been in prison for 25 years.

"He is in good health and

mentally very active," one government source said. "But if he catches so much as a cold they rush him off to hospital."

Diplomats believe that the Government may embark on a policy of freeing lesser political prisoners to soften the impact of Mandela's release. "The problem is that no one knows what political impact his release would have on the black community," one source said.

Observers feel, however, that in some ways Mandela's return to the mainstream of black politics could harm the organization's present leadership by creating a power struggle between him and the exiled leaders, such as Mr Oliver Tambo, in Lusaka, and the younger leadership inside

South Africa, including his wife, Mrs Winnie Mandela.

An additional factor favouring a release is President Botha's eagerness to form a national council, which is intended to include leading moderate members of the black community. So far black moderates have insisted that they cannot sit on such a body until the "real leaders" are freed from prison.

President Botha has already asked the Ministry of Justice to look into Mbeki's case. He said that as far as other prisoners were concerned "periodic consideration will be given, in accordance with all other relevant factors".

The cloudy message has been interpreted as a clear signal that the Government is prepared to alter its position.

## Botha expected to act against 'meddling' envoys

Cape Town — Western embassies in South Africa are bracing themselves for possible action by the Government against what it sees as meddling by some diplomats in the country's affairs (Nicholas Beeston writes).

The hint of such action emerged earlier this month when President Botha said that he might impose travel restrictions and other limitations on "certain members of

staff of specific embassies".

Government sources have indicated this week that in particular South Africa is upset by the activities of diplomats at anti-Government functions organized by groups such as the United Democratic Front. Foreign embassies are also known to have increased their staff who monitor black politics in South Africa and who speak the local black dialects.

One Western diplomat said: "Botha is perfectly capable of trying to mitigate the role of

Western embassies and may take action."

Government sources said Pretoria was particularly upset by the presence of some diplomats at anti-Government functions organized by groups such as the United Democratic Front. Foreign embassies are also known to have increased their staff who monitor black politics in South Africa and who speak the local black dialects.

The Government warning comes hand-in-hand with proposed legislation that would limit foreign funding for extra-parliamentary groups such as the UDF and the Institute for Democratic Alternative in South Africa, which held talks with the outlawed African National Congress in Dakar last month. Funding for that journey has since been traced to some Western foundations and European governments.

## Haiti mob turns on Catholic priests

Port-au-Prince (Reuters) — Haiti's interim Government said yesterday that it deplored Monday's attack on four priests in a northern Haitian town and other violence which has left hundreds dead in recent months.

The Information Minister, Mr Gerard Noel, said that a hostile crowd attacked and wounded the priests in the provincial town of St Marc, 60 miles north of Port-au-Prince. Three of the priests were in hospital, and a fourth was slightly hurt.

A witness said that the crowd, some of them armed, hurled stones and smashed the windshield of the car in which the priests were travelling.

## Danes for trial

Warsaw (Reuters) — Two Danes, Jens Ellekaer, aged 36, a businessman, and Niels Hemmingsen, a 23-year-old student, held in a Polish jail since April, are to go on trial early next month on espionage charges that could carry the death penalty.

## Case closed

Linz, Austria (Reuters) — The former Nazi death camp guard Martin Bartsch cannot be prosecuted for shooting an inmate of Mauthausen camp, near Linz, in 1943, Austria's statute of limitations rules that he cannot be prosecuted after a lapse of more than 30 years, a provincial court decided here.

## Famine threat

Maputo (Reuters) — More than 600,000 people face starvation in northern Mozambique because rebels have cut food supply lines and brought farming to a halt, the Maputo newspaper Noticias reported.

## UN man killed

Tyre (AP) — A UN soldier was killed and three others wounded when unidentified attackers ambushed them on the main road in Kafra, in south Lebanon.

## Cholera hint

Belgrade (AP) — Yugoslav health authorities are giving leaflets to travellers to Romania, warning them to watch for symptoms of cholera.

## Tunnel deaths

Peking (Reuters) — At least three rail workers died when a train carrying oil caught fire after being derailed in a tunnel near Lanzhou in north-west China.

## Paper barred

Khartoum (Reuters) — A leading Sudanese newspaper, al-Siyassa, has been suspended indefinitely for failing to back up allegations that an unnamed government minister was paid to reveal his own political party's secrets.

## Fire dragon

Peking (Reuters) — Firemen quelled a three-hour blaze in a hall of Peking's ancient Forbidden City after lightning struck a stone dragon's head on a rooftop.

## Taxing error

Manila (Reuters) — Melchor Javier, to whom a bank paid \$1 million in error 10 years ago, has been sentenced to six years' jail for not paying taxes.

Human rights in Kenya  
Plea for action on journalist arrested at Nairobi court

By Paul Valley

Amnesty International has made an appeal for urgent action over the case of a journalist detained without trial in Nairobi while investigating allegations of human rights abuses by the Kenyan Government of President Moi.

Last week the Government announced that Mr Paul Amia, a Kenyan freelance journalist who works mainly for Western media, including Reuters and the BBC, had been detained under the Preservation of Public Security Act which allows for indefinite detention. No reason for his imprisonment was given by the authorities.

A spokesman for Amnesty International told The Times yesterday that Mr Amia was arrested outside the High Court in Nairobi where he had been attempting to report the case brought by the widow of Stephen Mbaraka Karanja, a farmer who was shot dead in police custody and whose body has disappeared.

Mrs Karanja is attempting to sue the head of Nairobi's Criminal Investigation Department for contempt of court after his failure to produce the

body as ordered by the High Court.

That was on August 4. The following day Mr Amia was taken by the security forces to the offices of Reuters and West German Radio where they asked correspondents to produce samples of Mr Amia's work. They were not given any.

Mr Amia is the fifth journalist to be arrested since the Kenyan Government began its crackdown on dissenters in March 1986. The other four all subsequently pleaded guilty to various political offences and have been jailed.

Those who dodged the test could be brought to hospitals, if necessary with the help of the police, if there were grounds for believing they were infected with Aids, the decree said. Foreigners who dodged the test could be expelled.

The habeas corpus case brought by Mrs Karanja has been highly embarrassing for the Kenyan authorities.

First it revealed that her husband had indeed been killed. Then, when the court asked to see the body, the police exhumed 25 corpses without apparently being able to find the right one.

When the judge, Mr Derek Schofield, suggested that the head of the CID could be prosecuted he was removed from the case.

President Daniel arap Moi: Drive against dissent.

## Dissident seeks Moscow visa

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Mr David Goldfarb, the ailing Soviet dissident who has been in the United States less than a year after an eight-year fight to leave his country, went to the Soviet Embassy in Washington yesterday to apply for a visa to return to Moscow. He said he misses his daughter and his family.

Mr Goldfarb, aged 68, a scientist who suffers from cancer and diabetes and requires a wheelchair, hopes to return with his Russian wife Cecilia for a "few weeks", although he said he understood he might not be allowed to return to the US and that he might not receive proper medical attention in Moscow.

He said at his son's apartment in New York that he hoped that his request "is not interpreted as our disappointment in the United States or

rejection of any aspect of our life here.

"The reason for our decisions are not political but personal. We miss our daughter and grandchildren very much, and cannot go on any longer without seeing them. They cannot come here, so we decided to go there.

"Life without our girls is unbearable, and we decided to take this risk. I am a very sick man. I do not have the time to wait for years. I do not have the strength to wage a war of attrition to get them out."

His son Alex, an assistant professor at Columbia University, said it was unlikely that the Soviet authorities would allow his sister and her family to visit the US. But if they did, "my father would cancel his application".

The dissident and his wife

were turned over in October to Mr Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental Petroleum, who flew them to America in his jet.

When Mr Goldfarb arrived in New York he was taken immediately to hospital, where he was treated for lung cancer, severe diabetes and related ailments, and released four months later. He had a mild stroke last month.

Mr Goldfarb said he had hoped that his daughter Olga, aged 34, and her family would follow him to the US, "but now a year later, her emigration case is still pending".

She was allowed to visit New York for a week last year. Mr Goldfarb said that that was a bad sign — "a sign that we may never see them again".

After the war, Teck Hua became a rice salesman in Kelantan. He was a devout member of the party, which was quickly gaining control of unions, student movements and academic groups. At that time, he says, they had hoped to make Malaysia an independent communist state peacefully, but they turned to violence after a wave of arrests.

In 1948, many of the old guerrillas who had fought the Japanese were imprisoned without trial. "After fighting alongside us, the British turned on us as if we were Japanese," said Teck Hua. "We were bitter about that." He managed to escape into the jungle where, for nine years, the enemy were British and Australian forces who, by 1957, when Malaysia became independent, had forced most of the communists across the frontier into Thailand.

Teck Hua said: "We had no choice. We could not get food and

other supplies." Nearly 2,000 travelled into Thailand — joined over the years by others who came either because they were communists or who, as ethnic Chinese, felt treated as second-class citizens by the Malay majority.

"We found life very easy in Thailand," said Teck Hua. "We could get anything we wanted if we paid for it. Even then, we thought we might still win the struggle in Malaysia. But for a long time now, we have accepted reality and know we can never go back. That's why we have negotiated peace with the Thais. They have treated us fairly and respected our honour, unlike the Malaysian Government."

"If the British had done what the Thais have done now, our war with them would have ended very quickly." He says he has few regrets as he believes that, without the communist insurgency, Britain would never have given Malaysia independence. With a laugh, he said he now hoped for a pension and to become a Thai citizen before

## Protest at the Western Wall



A rabbi losing his hat in a scuffle at the sacred Western Wall in Jerusalem. The incident happened as thousands of ultra-Orthodox rabbis, staging a "pray-in" against the showing of films on the Sabbath, jostled for position to see one of their leaders, the Rabbi of Gur.

## Israel Lavi project loses chief supporter

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Another nail has been driven into the coffin of Israel's controversial Lavi fighter aircraft with the apparent acceptance by Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, of the inevitability of the scrapping of the project.

Mr Peres, almost alone among Labour's leadership, has been one of the staunchest supporters of the aircraft, which the military establishment now says it no longer wants and which the Treasury says Israel cannot afford.

But he is now proposing a number of ideas that would entail discontinuing the development of the Lavi while minimizing the damage to the Israel Aircraft Industry with which he has been closely associated.

In a series of meetings this week with Mr Moshe Nissim, the Finance Minister, and Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, Mr Peres has proposed redirecting the Israel Aircraft Industry's research and development towards an even more advanced fighter for the next century, while keeping production capacity intact through local production of the American F16 aircraft.

Observers here yesterday were sceptical about the practicality of Mr Peres's proposals, viewing them essentially as a ladder to enable him to climb down from his former unqualified support for the Lavi.

The Cabinet is expected to discuss the future of the project at its next meeting on Sunday, with still no certainty that a final decision will be taken then.

## Aids test for all in Russia

Moscow (Reuters) — The Supreme Soviet, the country's Parliament, has decreed compulsory Aids testing of Soviet citizens and foreigners and set jail terms for people who knowingly pass on the deadly virus. Tass said yesterday.

The decree said: "Soviet citizens, as well as foreign citizens and stateless persons living or staying on the territory of the Soviet Union, may be bound to take a medical test for the Aids virus."

Those who dodged the test could be brought to hospitals, if necessary with the help of the police, if there were grounds for believing they were infected with Aids, the decree said. Foreigners who dodged the test could be expelled.

The decree ordered prison terms of five years for people who deliberately exposed others to the risk of infection from Aids and eight years for people who passed on the disease. Similar penalties apply to people who knowingly transmit venereal diseases.

The Soviet Union at first treated Aids as a problem of the decadent West but has recently launched research programmes into the disease. The official media have also started to give more factual information about it.

The exact number of Soviet victims is unclear. In March, Soviet doctors said 32 cases had been registered, all but two of them affecting foreigners who were deported. But in June, the press wrote about a Soviet homosexual who had returned from a foreign trip with Aids and who had unwittingly infected at least six other people.

Academician Valentin Pokrovsky said then that although the situation in the Soviet Union, where homosexuality is illegal, was not as bad as in the West, the Aids problem had taken a worrying turn. Before yesterday's announcement the media had been urging people to have voluntary tests.

The Government has so far shown unusual tolerance and restraint. But signs of impatience have grown. The Government has issued repeated warnings against "alien and impure elements" meddling in labour disputes, a reference to student and religious groups who want to use the labour strife for political change.

On Monday six people, including the student leader at Yonsei University, Woo Sang-Ho, were arrested for staging illegal rallies and fomenting labour unrest.

Meanwhile, this company town on an island 200 miles south of Seoul, had returned to a tense state of calm on Monday. Daewoo workers gathered for the third day outside the company hospital, but there were no clashes with the police.

A group stood guard outside the hospital morgue to prevent Mr Lee's body from being taken away. Workers listed demands to be met before they would allow his burial.

They wanted the Minister of Home Affairs, who controls the riot police, to resign, an end to the use of tear gas, and for the shipyard to reopen. They also wanted Mr Lee to be buried at a cemetery in Kwangju, where victims of a 1980 uprising against the

Chun regime lay interred, so that he would be remembered as a labour hero.

Authorities at the Kwangju cemetery have refused to accept Mr Lee's body. Meanwhile, his family wants him buried in his home town of Namwon.

The Daewoo shipping dispute has been particularly difficult to settle. Workers originally demanded a \$90 (\$55) a month pay rise. On Saturday management and labour had agreed to a \$7.40 monthly rise, which workers had rejected, leading to the demonstration where Mr Lee was killed.

The Daewoo shipyards, like most other Korean shipbuilding facilities, are suffering from enormous debts and over-capacity due to the world ship-building recession.

South Korea has become the world's largest ship-building nation, surpassing Japan.

Workers at the Daewoo yard earn about \$200-\$380 per month, an amount too small they say, on which to survive.

Workers at Daewoo realize that their strike endangers the company's future. But they said that it was better to risk the company's going bankrupt than to work for less than a living wage.

## Striker's body held hostage to crisis in South Korea

From A Correspondent, Kojé, South Korea

The body of Lee Sok Kyu lies in a morgue here, held hostage to events that have left the nation in a state of anxiety.

Mr Lee, aged 21, died on Saturday when he joined 3,000 striking Daewoo shipyard workers in a clash with 2,000 riot police. Tear gas grenades pierced his lung and brain, killing him before he arrived at the hospital, according to a post-mortem examination report.

The clash came after workers rejected a wage settlement and the management of this troubled shipyard.

The Daewoo strike is one of more than 1,600 to have hit all sectors of South Korean industry since July 1, when President Chun gave in to opposition demands for democratic reforms.

Most of the strikes have been settled peacefully, focusing on economic rather than political issues.

But Mr Lee's death has given the labour movement and sympathetic student and religious groups a martyr. When a Yonsei University student died from tear gas wounds in July, more than one million people attended his funeral.

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Workers at Daewoo realize that their strike endangers the company's future. But they



## SPECTRUM

## Bowing to the old master

Antonio Stradivari of Cremona, who crafted the world's finest stringed instruments, died 250 years ago.

Brian James follows six violins back to their birthplace for a unique exhibition

The greatest collection of musical instruments made by the incomparable master is back in the city where each was crafted. Any day now, the first of the fakes is certain to arrive.

Violins, violas, cellos and guitars, 37 of the best examples of the thousands of classic instruments made by the loving hand and eye of Antonio Stradivari, are assembled in the medieval City Palace in Cremona, in whose shade the genius lived until his death exactly 250 years ago.

The anniversary is being marked by a six-week exhibition, opening today, of his instruments and the tools that made them, and by a series of concerts in which some of the world's greatest violin virtuosos will share the limelight just this once with the tools of their trade.

Instruments from all over the world have been arriving for days. Some have been carried with professional aplomb by representatives of the handful of dealers qualified and confident enough to deal with a "Strad", the best of which would bring more than a million dollars; the rest have been carried with white-knuckled concern by private owner-collectors.

The entire collection is worth not less than £25 million. The six violins which I followed from London were carried with staged nonchalance in canvas-covered double cases by three casually-dressed young employees of Britain's best-known dealer; guitars for some camp-fire sing-song, perhaps.

Their collective value? "Say, around £2,500,000." The strain? "Only on the M4. Saw two crashes. These were on the back seat. So, sure, I began thinking 'What if...'" said Peter Beare, of the London dealers J & A Beare.

Money was the last thing anyone wanted to dwell upon as the collection grew and each glass case accepted its glowing golden prize. Dealers, couriers, collectors were in raptures; discovering or remembering the colour and "flame" of the patina, the form and harmony of the shaping, the detail and guile of the carving.

None could say what made a Strad a Strad; why one craftsman

should stand above all the others who had huddled in workrooms around the Lombardy city's huge bell tower, developing the instrument invented by the Cremonese Amati family in the 16th century. The secrecy of the tools of Stradivari's vintages, his shaping, his depth of tone, are as much the subject of debate as they were at the hour of his death in 1737, for he died both famous and unexplained.

What is as mysterious is why, of all works of incomparable genius, that of Antonio Stradivari should be so subject to the fakes' skill. Cremona staged a smaller exhibition of the masterworks in 1937. Contemporary reports describe how, like penitents to a shrine, scores of unknown "Strad" owners came hopefully to town, only to learn that their heirlooms had formed part of, say, an orange box, not so long before. "It is quite certain to be the same here," said Charles Beare, the British expert and dealer whose idea this exhibition was.

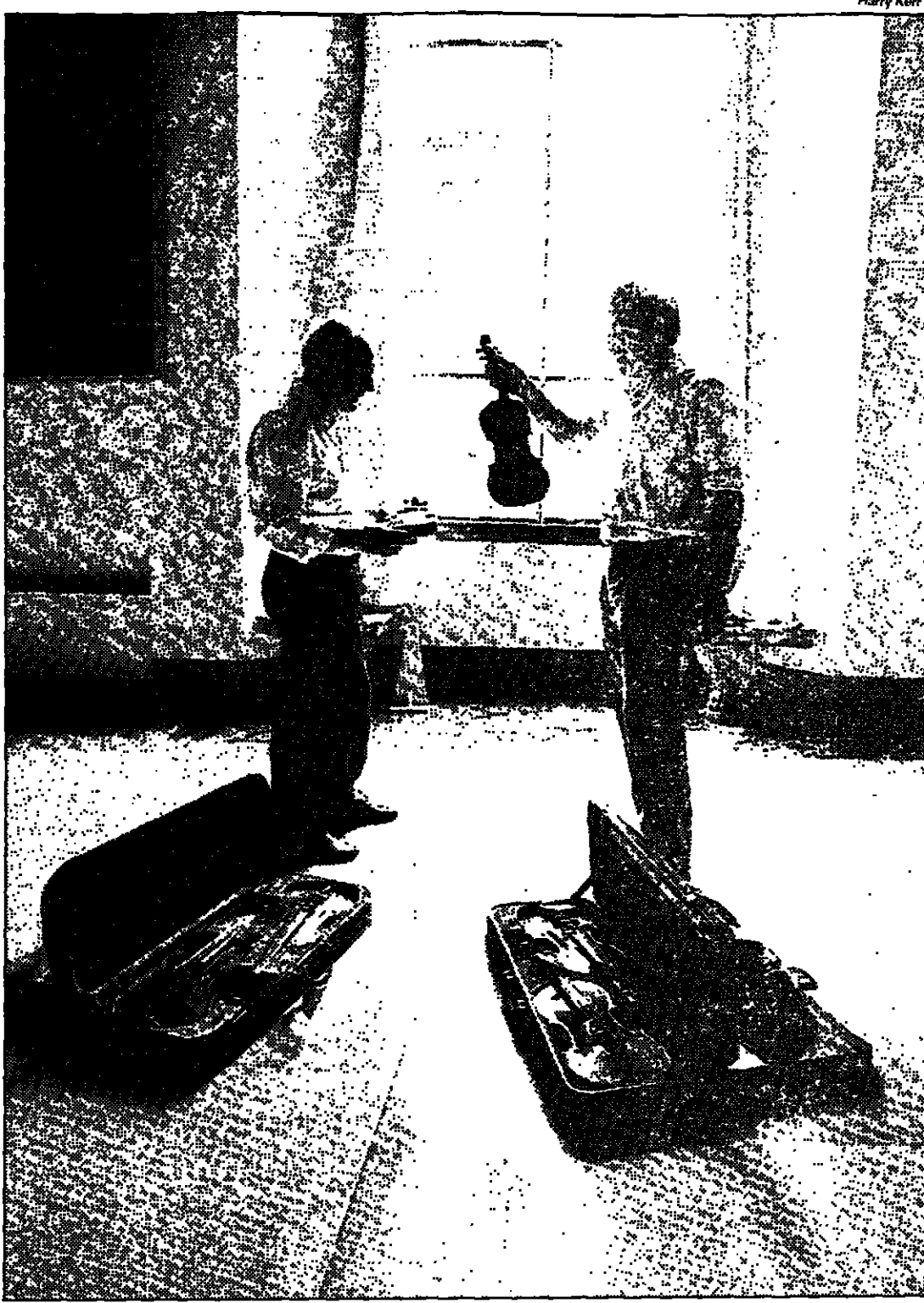
Beare, as president of the scientific committee, has been responsible for the two-year task of prizing the instruments from the city museums and private vaults where they usually rest.

"I get, on average, three letters a week from someone claiming to have a Strad. Usually from somewhere like Louisiana. Usually on lined notepaper. And always with some detail that is supposed to clinch the claim, like: 'I know it must be genuine, because my Dad brought it back from Europe after the First World War.'"

"We even had one violin brought to us from America which carried the name of Stradivari, followed by the words 'Made in Czechoslovakia'. We pointed this out to the now-impoorished new owner. There was a pause, then: 'So the guy never took a vacation?' No, really, I swear."

Professor Andrea Mosconi, the festival's artistic director and curator of the Stradivari museum, says similar "finds" have been reported to him several times a week for the past 20 years. None has been the real thing.

There is an irony about this



Six of the best: Andrea Mosconi (left) and Charles Beare and the "Strads" worth £2,500,000

present unrivalled collection of genuine Strads, for it includes the instrument — the "Parke", made in 1711 — which could be said to have fathered a thousand fakes. In the hands of French owners in the 1840s, its classic form and colouring was professedly copied by two great Parisian violin-makers out of nothing but admiration and respect. The subsequent "reflagging",

with carefully-aged "Stradivari" labels, was the work of later crooks.

The exhibition presents visitors with a tour of the master's life (the exhibits are arranged in date order from the 1670 "Tullaye" he made in his twenties, via the great violins of his seventies to the later instruments, on which the quavers of age on the decorative purfling can be detected). Much of the fascina-

tion is in the stories of the instruments, all of them named, often after their most famous owner.

There is the 1713 "Gibson", stolen from Carnegie Hall in 1936. Watching it being placed in its case, Marcelle Hall of Washington DC told again the story of how her late husband, Julian Altman, had on his death bed confessed that he had

bought the instrument for \$100 the day after the theft, and had since used it making a living playing gypsy music in shady cafes.

"I asked him to describe the 'friend' who stole the violin," Ms Hall said. "He described a good-looking guy, great with the ladies, always on the drink, always short of dough, always with a great line of talk. He was describing himself, the bastard. He took it. I have no doubt. I saw it left a million times on the top of the bar. It got beer slopped on it. It got bashed. But I never saw it like this — glowing. It's a lovely thing... I am just so glad he had the grace to save it right at the end."

Among the cellos are the "Cristiani", named after a teenage virtuoso of the 1840s for whom Mendelssohn wrote his "Song Without Words", and the 1710 instrument seized by the Nazis from the Rothschild family and only discovered after much detective work by Baroness Clarice de Rothschild.

There is the 1719 "Cremonese", the violin to which Brahms dedicated his incomparable first violin concerto. This instrument will be taken from its case for the final festival concert in October, when Salvatore Accardo will use it to perform... the Brahms.

Surprisingly, few of these great instruments are owned by current virtuosos, though Itzhak Perlman has lent his beloved 1714 "Soil", and Anne-Sophie Mutter her "spare" 1703 Stradivari. Much more typical, according to Charles Beare, is the amateur music lover who "makes a fortune in oil and then indulges himself in a million-dollar Stradivari to get the best possible sound when he plays 'Three Blind Mice'."

Dr Ephraim Engelman is far beyond "Three Blind Mice". Something of a child prodigy, he was playing on stage to accompany silent films at the age of 12. "Then the talkies came in. My mother made me give up music and go to medical college," Dr Engelman bought a \$10,000 Amati violin many years ago, and by judicious trading up now owns a violin by the other Cremonese, Giuseppe "del Gesù" Guarneri, and the superb 1709 "Lacombe" Strad on which he practises daily.

"You a fiddle-player? No? Then you wouldn't begin to know what it means to own a thing like that. And that's why I wouldn't even let you hold it. Don't feel bad," added the nice Dr Engelman. "There are not more than a handful of people in the world I would let touch my violin. Someone like Pinchas Zuckerman, maybe... for a minute or two."

## Quest for a cloud

While Britain's summer looks like a washout, India is praying for a storm

The failure of the monsoon, possibly the worst this century, is causing widespread concern in India. It is nearly two months late and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has warned that although the country has adequate stockpiles of food, 15 million people in the rural areas could be put out of work.

Half the world's population, living in the tropics and sub-tropics, relies on the summer monsoon. India gets as much as three quarters of its rain from this source.

In a normal year, the monsoon bursts on the Malabar coast in the south at the end of May, reaching New Delhi by the beginning of July.

The last poor year was 1982, while 1972 and 1967 were also bad. There is some evidence that in recent decades the rains have been more reliable and that before 1950 very dry years were more common.

Ever since the awful famine of 1878 there have been many efforts to predict the monsoon. These have met with only limited success.

Reasonably convincing links have been established with effects as remote as sea-surface temperature over the Pacific and the winter snow cover of Central Asia, but these fall short of providing reliable forecasts.

Whatever the causes, India's crucial dependence on this single, well-defined but little understood seasonal movement of the weather, makes the monsoon possibly the most important challenge for weather forecasters.

W. J. Burroughs

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## Thistle Hotels

In the list of 80 salaries published in Monday's *Times*, the figure for a Thistle Hotels head chef should have read £13,000 to £22,000, depending on the size of the establishment.

## A fresh lease for the semi

The suburban semi-detached has always been inconveniently popular with people. Even now it possibly represents the way most Britons would like to live, and, when houses that cost £750 in 1932 sell for £175,000, its ultra-conservative values are beginning to be appreciated by professionals and conservationists, too.

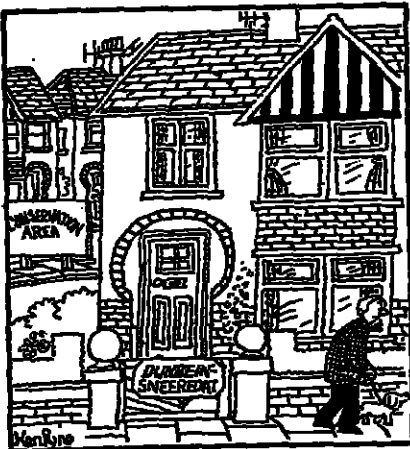
The first few select suburban estates have been declared official conservation areas, and an exhibition opening tomorrow in appropriately suburban Hendon celebrates the "little palaces" that sprang up around London in the 1920s and 1930s.

Abuse was heaped on the houses when they were built. Those who erected them were "speculative". Their architectural styles were "bogus". But for a proliferating, and no longer wealthy, middle class they represented escape from the drudgery of grimy, urban tenements.

The speculative builders took their lead from the Garden City Movement, and their opportunity from the State's abrupt decision in 1921 to stop financing local authorities' programmes to build "Homes Fit For Heroes". In 1922, 4,860 private houses were built in Greater London. By 1934 the rate of private building had climbed, erratically but spectacularly, to 72,756.

With mortgage repayments as low as nine shillings (45p) a week, it became possible in the 1930s to buy a house on as little as £200 a year, the salary of a junior clerical worker. Some speculative builders asked for only £25 down; one carried a wad of fivers to lend prospective customers the deposit.

Mostly the houses were built without architects or planners. Hence professional distaste for them. But the decorative features — tile-hung gables, half-timbering, pebbledash — were drawn from the English rustic vernacular



and used in a style derived directly from late Victorian and Edwardian revivalist architects. The ultimate expression of conservative romanticism was sham Tudor, an escapist fantasy made all the more desirable by economic depression.

The internal plan of the houses, too, was stubbornly conservative, essentially that of the 19th-century terraced house. The front parlour stayed because people wanted it. The rear extension, with its

connotation of urban scullery drudgery, went because it was unpopular. That left the houses with their biggest drawback from the modern occupier's point of view: small kitchens and bathrooms.

The suburbanites of the 1920s and 1930s did not share the modern fetish for light. They liked the dark, not only because light colours would show the dust of open fires. It was an age of varnish, pseudo-antique (rather than Art Deco) furniture and linoleum. A paint chart of the time is four-fifths dark colours, mostly browns and greens.

"In many ways the ordinary inter-war semi represented the last manifestations in mid-Victorian taste in decoration and household management," says Mark Turner, the keeper of the Silver Studio Collection at the Middlesex Polytechnic, who has brought together the exhibition.

But the number that are to be found in original condition is rapidly dwindling toward vanishing point, as, one after another, the suburbs' little palaces succumb to the modern generation of self-styled home-improvers, do-it-yourself enthusiasts, replacement window salesmen and vandalistic stone-cladders.

Leaflets produced to accompany the exhibition urge suburban owners not to knock dining-rooms and sitting-rooms together, ruining the proportions of both, or to take down chimneys (natural ventilation) and take out fireplaces (the room's focal point). These period features, too, like Georgian fireplaces and window shutters, will command their premium in time.

Little Palaces, Church Farm House Museum, Greyhound Hill, Hendon, London NW4, Aug 22-Oct 4, Weekdays (except Tue) 10 am-1 pm, 2-5.30 pm; Tue 10 am-1 pm only; Sun 2-5.30 pm only. Admission free.

Robin Young

## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1345

- ACROSS
- 1 Price reduction (8)
  - 5 Flap (4)
  - 9 Radio telegraphy physicist (7)
  - 10 Harmonize (5)
  - 11 Trivial (5)
  - 12 Excuse (5)
  - 13 Let in (5)
  - 15 Wireless (5)
  - 16 Hindu class (5)
  - 18 Gibraltar (5)
  - 20 Jack (5)
  - 21 Wellbeing (7)
  - 23 Beak pace (4)
  - 24 Quarter note (8)

- DOWN
- 1 Yellow tropical shrub (6)
  - 2 Lofly (8)
  - 3 Duet (3)
  - 4 Informer (7-6)
  - 6 Stead (4)
  - 7 Subtract (6)
  - 9 Adjournment (8)
  - 11 Chile president (8)
  - 14 Hoofbeats (8)
  - 15 Din (6)
  - 17 Scope (6)
  - 19 Elephant's ear plant (4)
  - 22 Destiny (3)

## SOLUTION TO NO 1344

ACROSS: 1 Project, 3 Sampson, 5 Hawk, 9 Bubble, 10 Octave, 11 Egot, 12 Medicine, 14 John Flannery, 17 Silencer, 19 Wise, 21 Hippie, 23 Cullis, 24 Ace, 25 Defect, 26 Ossify.

DOWN: 1 Quarry, 3 Substance, 4 Thermal, 5 Sword, 6 Met, 7 Ad, 9 Vice, 13 Cotswolds, 15 Oxidize, 16 Morocco, 18 Cheat, 20 Stuff, 22 Pie.

## Win with ideas

Each autumn Techmart — the Technology Transfer Exhibition, held at the National Exhibition Centre — provides a forum for Britain's brightest technological minds. This year, for the first time, the innovators of tomorrow will be joined by the Innovator of the Year, in a competition sponsored by *The Times* and Barclays Bank.

The winner will receive £10,000, as well as £1,000 worth of free stand space at Techmart. The runner up will also receive £1,000 worth of stand space.

Researchers, engineers or technicians from academic, government or commercial laboratories who have — or are about to — set up a new technological "spin out" company to exploit either their expertise or their research, are eligible to enter for *The Times*

Techmart Innovator of the Year Award.

A business plan no more than 20 pages long, with appendices if necessary, showing the balance between technical, marketing and financial skills, should reach David Killick, High Technology Team, Barclays Bank plc, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH, by August 31.

Entrants, who need to have been established no longer than three years, should also say how they intend to spend the prize money.

The 1987 Techmart exhibition will take place from October 13-15. The opening address — "Technology, the key to the future" — will be given by Sir Ian MacGregor, former chairman of British Coal and the British Steel Corporation.

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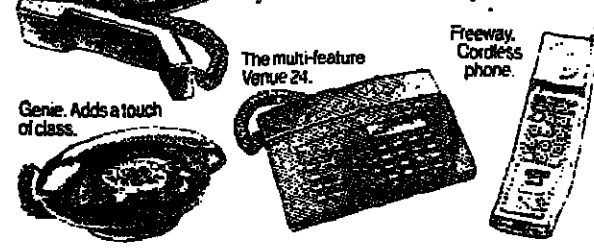
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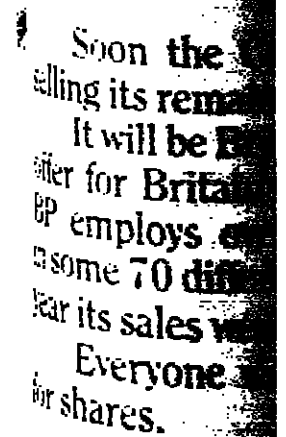


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## THE TIMES DIARY

### One under the eight

Peter Bottomley, the junior Transport Minister with the task of persuading us not to drink and drive, is as fond of the *taste* of booze as I am. At a meeting yesterday with the advertising agency Waldron, Allen, Henry & Thompson, which handles the drink-drive campaign, no fewer than eight different brands of wine and beer were laid out for the minister and ad men to sample—all of them. I should add, non-alcoholic. Bottomley tells me the purpose of the "party" was to work out how best his department can persuade newspapers and broadcasters to carry the anti-drink-drive message, a cheaper and more effective alternative, he believes, than paid-for advertising. "We're setting up the Waugh award," he jests, "for those papers which start the most debate about drinking and driving." Since he's naming it after Auberon Waugh, champion of the individual, wine writer and constant critic of government policy on drink driving, it is ironic that the prize is a alcohol-free bottle of champagne.

### Reform club

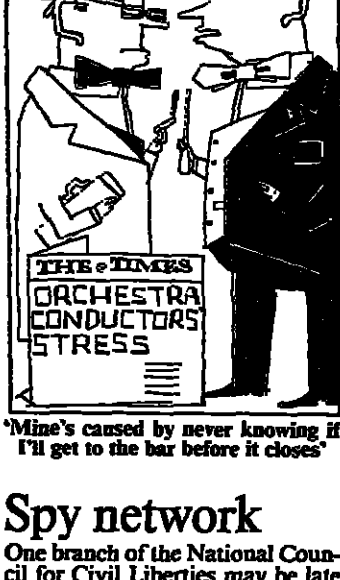
As SDP and Liberal activists wait with bated breath for the outcome of next week's SDP conference discussions on merger, some have already set their minds on what to call a joint party. Letters have, I am told, been flooding in to David Steel with suggested names. Top of the list is the nostalgic Reform Party, with the Democratic Party and the Alliance close behind. But despite its popularity a reassertion of reformist traditions in the new party's name seems unlikely. "I think the objection would be that it sounds rather staid," commented one Liberal.

● The transcript of Oliver North's testimony to the Iran-Contra hearings, published as a book called *Taking the Stand*, sold like hot cakes for a few days when it appeared in America last month. But one bookshop browser noticed last week it has already been relegated to the bottom shelves.

### The two Lucys

The once-cordial relationship between the two Davids may have been further distanced by the black-haired Labrador puppy which Steel was given in Bodmin during the election campaign. The puppy, whose name was to be decided by competition, was not entirely welcome at Steel's Eitric Bridge home as the family already has an elderly Labrador named Jill who did not take to the new arrival. David and Debbie Owen then said that if the dog failed to settle they would take her on. Since then she has been named Lucy. This would make adoption awkward because that's the name of the Owens' youngest child.

BARRY FANTONI



"Mine's caused by never knowing if I'll get to the bar before it closes"

### Spy network

One branch of the National Council for Civil Liberties may be late in jumping on the *Spycatcher* bandwagon with its public reading of the book tonight, but scores by adding spice to the controversy. One of the stars on the bill in Hereford is former diplomat Ronald Higgins, private secretary to Edward Heath when he was Lord Privy Seal. Higgins maintains that at least Parliament should look into the allegations. My question is, having read the book, how will they keep the audience awake?

### Lacey's lead

Terry Waite will almost certainly be unaware of his friend Graham Ferguson Lacey's attempt at the weekend to persuade Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, to join the search for the missing envoy. Ignorance may also be bliss, as Ferguson Lacey's "private initiative" is the latest turn in the erratic career of the one-time paint salesman from Solihull, who, less than a decade ago, was a born-again whizz-kid financial wheeler-dealer. Lacey, now a southern baptist minister, abandoned business for evangelism after a series of unsuccessful grandiose take-over schemes. He briefly resurfaced three years ago when he tried to return to the British business scene. Once described by Tiny Rowland of Lorrato as a "financial pygmy," he said yesterday from the St James Club in London that his attempts to get Waite's release had been going on in secret for three months.

PHS

# A woman for the presidency?

by Norman Podhoretz

Washington  
Could a woman be elected president of the United States in 1988? The answer is yes, but not if she is running as a woman.

That rules out Patricia Schroeder of Colorado, who is now thinking of going for the Democratic nomination. Like Geraldine Ferraro before her, Mrs Schroeder's only claim to consideration is that she is female. When asked why she is running as a woman, Mrs Schroeder quips: "Do I have an option?" It is a good-natured and even clever response, but it misses the point. Ask Walter Mondale, who was so brutally punished by the electorate in 1984 for (among other things) selecting Mrs Ferraro as his running mate entirely on the basis of her sex.

But there is a woman who would have a very good chance of winning the presidency. Her name is Jeane Kirkpatrick, and the reason her chances would be so good is because she would not be running as a woman.

Of course Mrs Kirkpatrick would not be running as a Democrat either. Like many others who have been driven out of the Democratic Party by its drift to the left, she is now a Republican. Yet even before switching parties in 1985 she had, as Ronald Reagan's Ambassador to the UN, already become enormously popular.

with the conservative activists who are as important in the Republican presidential primaries as the leftists are in choosing the Democratic nominee.

Nor has her popularity faded in the two years since she left office. As a speaker, she has drawn huge and responsive crowds throughout the country. This is not only evidence of Mrs Kirkpatrick's appeal to the conservative activists, but of their lack of enthusiasm for the other candidates.

Of the seven currently seeking the Republican nomination, three (Jack Kemp, Paul Laxalt, and Pat Robertson) would seem to be naturalists as far as the conservatives are concerned. But none has yet succeeded in locking up conservative support; and nor have the two front runners, George Bush and Robert Dole, for all their ardent wooing.

But will Mrs Kirkpatrick run? That depends largely on Kemp. After a slow start, he has been gathering strength in recent months. If in the next few weeks he should take off, Mrs Kirkpatrick would almost certainly stay out. But if Kemp should remain around the 10 per cent level in the polls, the odds are that by early October she will stake her

claim to the conservative constituency. And having set the conservatives on fire at the 1984 Republican convention with her famous speech attacking the "San Francisco Democrats" who "blame America first", she could set them on fire again in 1988.

Thus launched, and probably skipping over the ridiculous Iowa caucuses, Mrs Kirkpatrick would then have an excellent shot at first or at least second place in the New Hampshire primary. In a field of eight, such a showing would need only about 20 per cent of the vote, and with the passionate backing of the conservative activists she could hardly get less.

This would place her for an even better showing two weeks later in the primaries being held on "super-Tuesday". With so many southern states holding primaries then, Mrs Kirkpatrick, as the favourite of the conservatives (and with family roots in Texas and Oklahoma) could easily win, and perhaps even with the nomination virtually sewn up.

But even if she did become the Republican candidate, could she go on to win the general election? Against any of the "seven dwarfs" now running for the Democratic nomination, why not? Admittedly

Mrs Kirkpatrick is untested as a vote-getter. Her demonstrated ability to make crowds cheer may or may not bring her votes. But this is something that only her candidacy can settle.

Which brings us back to the woman question. According to the latest poll, among the voters least willing to entertain the idea of a woman president are those very southern conservatives on whom Mrs Kirkpatrick's campaign for the nomination would most heavily depend. As for the general election, the same poll reports that, in hypothetical comparisons, male Democrats defeat female Republicans by 15 points.

These are serious problems. Yet in the primaries—the concrete appeal of Mrs Kirkpatrick's politics to conservative voters, combined with her refusal to run as a woman, could neutralize their doubts. Then, in the general election, again because she neither asks for nor receives special treatment as a woman, she would no more be a "female Republican" than Margaret Thatcher is a "female Tory".

That is the main point about her in this context, and it is the main reason she could well become the first woman president of the United States.

The author is Editor of Commentary.

## Richard Thomson on a crisis that has brought new urgency to the search by international bankers for a better way of funding Third World debt

# The banks go begging

"Countries never go bust" was the famous dictum of Mr. Walter Wriston, who led the American bank Citicorp, into heavy Third World lending in the 1970s. It now seems that even if they don't go bust, borrowers may still refuse to repay their debts.

It has taken the world's bankers five years of double talk and procrastination to admit that they will probably not recover the \$1,000 billion they have lent to developing countries. That admission at least offers the chance of finding a lasting solution to the debt problem, instead of endlessly sweeping it under the carpet.

The determination of bankers to do this will be tested next month, when the world's leading financial experts gather in Washington for the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund. Debt is a contentious topic every year, but this time it has a special urgency.

Earlier this year Brazil, the developing world's largest borrower, announced that it was halting indefinitely the repayments of capital and interest on some \$60 billion of commercial bank loans. With more than \$110 billion of debt outstanding, Brazil is in a position to throw its weight around.

No developing country had tried a partial default on this scale before and the effect was electric. Within a few weeks, Citicorp—the biggest lender to Latin America—had raised its cover against bad debts by \$2.5 billion. Following its lead, the big British banks have set aside more than £3 billion against problem loans, resulting in the poorest profit figures many of them have ever seen.

Lloyds Bank, which topped the league with £1 billion in special bad debt provisions, and Barclays Bank both reported losses for the first time in their history. Midland Bank would have made a loss if it had not used an accounting sleight-of-hand to avoid one. Even National Westminster, with the smallest exposure to debtor countries, had its profits slashed to half the previous year's level.

The provisions were so massive that they opened up big gaps between the banks. Barclays and NatWest, whose Third World loans—and consequently their provisions—were relatively small, were already the two largest banks. But they suddenly found themselves in a different league from Lloyds and Midland, whose capital was hit by these enormous debt provisions. To cope with the impact, Midland is being forced to sell off two subsidiaries and raise more money on the stock market.

The banks claim that the increased bad debt cover shows they have developed a new realism about their loans. The British banks have been as guilty as any of assuming there was no real problem, despite the evidence that developing countries were in trou-



ble. They refused to make large provisions against bad debts and pretended that everything would be repaid in the end.

But as the debt problem grew worse during the 1980s the banks' other businesses boomed. Domestic banking particularly has taken off over the past three years, annual profits from the British operations of the big four have regularly topped 30 per cent. In effect, the British public is paying to shore up the banks' bad lending to the Third World.

And the British public will go on paying, because although the banks have now made provisions against 30 per cent of their potential bad debts there is no guarantee that they will not have to go higher. Eventually, the whole of some loans will have to be written off, while others will remain on the books at only a fraction of their original value.

That is one reason why Brazil is so important. If a plausible method of handling its debt problems is not found this time, there are certain to be further partial defaults by borrowers, leading to still higher bad debt provisions by banks.

The IMF meeting is the most

promising forum for reaching a broad agreement on how to end Brazil's suspension of debt repayments. The negotiations, involving the Brazilian government, the commercial bankers and the multilateral financial organizations (principally the IMF and the World Bank) are certain to be complex and prolonged.

### The borrowers

Outstanding international loans of largest Third World borrowers at end of 1986

Brazil	\$110bn
Mexico	\$102bn
Argentina	\$50bn
Indonesia	\$37bn
Venezuela	\$35bn
Philippines	\$28bn

### The lenders

British bank special provisions made this year and outstanding problem loans

	Provisions	Loans
Barclays	\$570m	\$3.1bn
Lloyds	\$1.0bn	\$4.3bn
Midland	\$916m	\$4.3bn
NatWest	\$495m	\$3bn
Stan Chartered	\$400m	\$1.7bn

## Laws that protect the war-crime suspect

The Soviet Union has formally requested Britain to extradite Antanas Gecas, a Lithuanian living in Edinburgh who claims is guilty of war crimes. He is one of 17 suspected genocidists living in Britain on a list handed to the government by the Wiesenthal Institute last year. What are the chances of bringing any of them before a court?

The all-party parliamentary war crimes group chaired by Merlyn Rees, in consultation with the governments of Canada, the US and Australia, has considered three legal possibilities.

First, can they be brought to trial in Britain for genocide or murder committed in Estonia in 1941-42? German war criminals were tried in occupied Germany but never here. Genocide was declared to be a crime in peace or in war by the 1948 United Nations convention, but British courts have no war crimes jurisdiction for crimes committed in the last war. The necessary legislation has

never been passed—although it does exist in Canada—nor does it seem likely that it will be.

As to the common crime of murder, British courts have no jurisdiction over murder committed abroad unless by persons who were British subjects at the time. This is not the case with the suspects named by the Wiesenthal Institute.

The second alternative is extradition, the handing over of a wanted criminal or suspect to a foreign country presenting *prima facie* evidence to a court here. The country must have an extradition treaty with us covering the crimes and meeting any special conditions of delivery. No such treaty has been concluded with the Soviet Union.

Even if we did conclude an extradition treaty with the Soviets, it would still be possible for extradition orders to be refused if the Home Secretary considered that it would be "unjust or oppressive". This might well be

the case where the Soviet Union is concerned, in view of its poor record on human rights.

Britain does have an extradition treaty with Israel—the only other country likely to demand the surrender of the 17 suspects—but it does not extend to demands for crimes committed outside the territorial limits of Israel.

The third possibility is deportation. No British citizen can be deported, so it would be necessary to revoke any naturalization, a rare and strictly limited procedure. Probably the only grounds for this would be if the Home Secretary was satisfied the British citizenship was obtained by fraud, false representation or concealment of any detail.

Even if these requirements are met, and the individual, as a stateless person, is liable to be deported, the Home Secretary has to consider the deportation to be conducive to the public good. Further, deportation must not be so carried out as to amount to a

disguised form of extradition, for example by direction being given to the carrier to convey the person to the state which has been denied extradition.

It thus does not seem likely that anything can be done to bring the suspects to justice, even assuming *prima facie* evidence of their crimes is available, unless legislation is introduced enabling them to be tried in this country or extradited.

The discretions conferred upon the Home Secretary in all cases of deprivation of naturalization and deportation are likely to prove formidable obstacles to securing the return of suspects to the scene of their crimes. The necessary legislation would probably also be opposed by both Parliament and the British people.

### Gerald Draper

The author, professor emeritus (law) at Sussex University, was a British war crimes prosecutor in Germany 1945-49.

Digby Anderson

# Blurred truths of black crime

A report last week suggested that soon a majority of imprisoned criminals will be black. The week before, a police superintendent in charge of the Chapeltown area of Leeds was alleged to have claimed that West Indians are mainly responsible for drugs, prostitution and vice and that his "15,000 West Indians are very difficult to police". The local Mandela Centre, a "community group", is upset by these remarks and considering reporting him to the Police Complaints Authority.

The rights and wrongs of the particular case are not my concern, but I should add that the Mandela Centre points out that it was not complaining itself but merely acting as a channel for a possible complaint from "the community", and that, when pressed as to why these remarks merited a complaint, explained they were racist and cast a slur on the "whole community".

Whatever the facts of the Leeds case, it is a fact that some people do believe West Indians responsible for disproportionate amounts of crime. So the obvious question, before any rhetoric about racism, is: are they? The Home Office is most unhelpful. It claims that no statistics on the ethnic composition of crime are collected. This is true but misleading. In fact, the Home Office itself has published research studies on race and crime (e.g. No 58) and so have university researchers. Even more important, the police classify criminals in categories reflecting race. The Metropolitan Police only recently stopped publishing them in racial breakdowns under criticism. So, though the figures are not collected and published by the Home Office, they do exist.

Several criminologists, of different persuasions, have argued that the figures ought to be published. Some think they would show West Indians to be law-abiding and thus correct rumour and prejudice. Or they might show how simplistic the notion of high or low rates is by showing high participation in "street crimes" and low in "white-collar crimes". Others think the statistics would show significantly higher rates for some crimes but that this could be linked to urban deprivation or show special needs which might produce helpful social policies. Any residual, genuinely "ethnic" factor in crime could be largely explained by the alleged prejudice of the police, juries and judges. Yet others just believe the public has a right to know.

It is doubtful whether the statistics would solve anything. They would simply start an argument about how much black crime could be explained by deprivation, police prejudice and socio-economic factors. These "factors" are the real currency of the debate because, while appearing sociological, they can be used to redistribute blame. In the progressive view of the world, individuals are at the mercy of such factors. In the conservative view, individuals

remain responsible for adapting to hostile conditions and even working patiently to overcome the prejudices of others. These sort of arguments would be fuelled by the statistics.

Blame is never far below the surface in the academic debate, and explicit in the public one. One complication—the academics would rightly introduce is that most crime is intra-racial; not inter-racial. This observation neither affects the figures nor explains the causes of crime. It is morally motivated, not so much pointing out who should be blamed but who has a right to blame. Blumly, if anyone has a right to be indignant about black crime it is blacks; they are the victims of it. This is crucial, for the genuine problem of who to blame for "black crime" is essentially about how criminal blacks relate to non-criminal blacks; in the extreme case, black victims. It is not so much whether some West Indian "elements" commit more rapes, car thefts, street attacks and drug crimes than their white or Asian counterparts, but whether they are typical of West Indians; not how much blame for the national crime rate can be legitimately attached to them, but to whom, precisely, it should be attached. There will always be arguments about the numbers, but there should be no argument about the identity of those blamed.

The remarks made by the Mandela Centre are instructive here. Whether they were right to complain about the numbers of crimes attributed to West Indians, they would certainly have been right to be concerned at any suggestion (if it was made) that there or anywhere else that crime was the fault of West Indians in general. It is this notion that all West Indians share the characteristics of a criminal minority—whatever size that minority—which is racist.

Unfortunately, it is precisely the "thinking" of certain black activists which encourages this. They insist on the sameness, the blackness of all black people, the black identity, the black experience. They go on and on about something called the black "community", which presumably is supposed to have a single community of interests. It's lethal nonsense. It means classifying the many hard-working, law-abiding, decent West Indian families with layabouts, rapists and muggers as simply "black". It means, in the end, refusing all natural moral distinction and lumping guilty (black) rapists and innocent (black) victims together as black.

It will be difficult to undo the damage done to West Indians by this black racist claptrap. But the obvious start would be for genuine representatives of the law-abiding West Indian majority to call for tougher police action on the sentencing of black criminals. For it is this majority who both by actual injury and false association are the principal victims.

The author is Director of the Social Affairs Unit.

however... Howard Jacobson

# Beckoned by the old gods

The recent IBA report on television and the family means to cheer us with its findings. Programmes about Texas oil magnates and their lovely wives do not, after all, excite envy, unsettle the home, or kill the art of conversation. Good to know; though since there is no special virtue in contentment, and the ability to converse has always been one of mankind's least perfected skills—witness the poor stab even professional conversers make at it on late night television itself—not all that good to know.

It's the news programmes, anyway, and not the soap operas, that do damage to the only part of man we need to care about: his capacity for individual reflection, for turning a deaf ear to the little-tattle of the universe. Once persuade a man that he is made the equal of his fellows by troubles in the Gulf or the yo-yoing of the currency and you have him in your pocket.

It is easier to ignore "news" when you're out of cities than when you're in them. You still have television, but your undifferentiated curiosity is not perpetually stimulated by billboards. You don't dash home to catch a bulletin. Down here on the bump of the big toe of Britain, for example, word of what's disrupting the breakfasts of diplomats arrives late or not at all. I haven't discussed the Gulf with anyone all summer. I don't know what my money's worth. Instead, for weeks now, local consciences have been exercised by three nice socio-ethical conundrums not referred to on television, to wit:

1. Whether the folk and ceilidh festival due to be held soon in the pub at the top of the hill is going to prove disastrous to the peace and well-being of the village, given the notorious predisposition of thugs and hooligans to gather wherever there is morris dancing.

2. Whether the hefty, 63-year-old gentleman who likes wearing pinstriped shirts and high-heeled patent shoes and is known to carry washing-up gloves and an apron in his handbag, is within his rights to apply for membership of the Women's Institute, and whether there is anything in the latter's constitution to hinder his election.

"The WI is an organization for women and girls," a spokesman of the appropriate sex has already confided to reporters, "and therefore we would have to be assured the individual applying is a woman in every way."

3. Whether fishermen who supplement their incomes taking sea-kill holidaymakers out on their boats to squint at seals and puffins should, out of the blue so to speak, be required to pass a special Department of Transport marine driving test (one three-point turn in mid-Atlantic; one emergency stop in the path of a Liberator tanker; two examples of auk and common guillemot evasion), and whether there is a mole among these seamen—an other, as he might be called—informed on his licensed colleagues out of motives too low for long-time coastal dwellers even to imagine.

It will be evident at once that these are only superficially parochial issues. Dionysus, the god of wine, effeminacy and riot, and Apollo, the god of all the ordered opposites—these are the real combatants between whom, in each instance, we know we have to choose. *Times* readers in urban areas might be more familiar with the choice between the individual and society, or freedom and constraint; but down here we still stick with the old divinities.

Or rather, they still do. As for me, I'll be gone by the time the folk festival doesn't result in riot and the WI doesn't take the definition of a woman. I won't be here to see the pleasure boats chugging out of the harbour with L-plates on their hulls, or to attend thanksgiving when the informer is found imprisoned in a lobster pot. I'll be out by then, back bobbing in the swell of bookish London, Beaujolais Nouveau '87 with that of '86, and wondering why yet another volume of non-fiction has won a prize for novels.

Big, newsy issues. Of intense concern to me. And good for the art of conversation. Of scant interest to the gods, however.

Howard Jacobson's new book, *In the Land of Oz*, will be published next month.





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## RESTRICTED ACCESS

For many years the United States has insisted that a lasting understanding with the Soviet Union to rid the world of nuclear weapons would be possible only if each side were allowed to arrive uninvited at the other's door. Then each could go inside to see if any agreement was being observed — "on-site verification", as the jargon has it, or "challenge inspections".

Rightly so. The Soviet Union has an exceptional record of violating agreements, treaties, safe conducts and solemn undertakings — on nuclear weapons, as on many other things. As long ago as 1961, it broke the first moratorium on nuclear tests. More recently, it was the first to break the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty of 1972 by building, at Krasnoyarsk in the heart of the Soviet Union, an installation which at best was of a kind which the treaty only allowed on the periphery of the country and which at worst was a breach of the treaty's prohibition on "battle-management stations".

For years too, the Soviet Union has sought to limit or avoid such unexpected and troublesome visitors from the United States or elsewhere. Rightly so, from the Soviet Union's point of view. A closed political system cannot allow foreigners to wander anywhere at will.

So the West could demand unlimited access to the Soviet Union, confident in the knowledge that it would not be granted. For, if it were, the Soviet inspectors would demand similar rights around the West. And the West's secrets about weapons are superior to the Soviet Union's because, on the whole, the weapons are.

Also, it would be extremely difficult to limit the Soviet Union's wanderings to venues which are obviously military. America's rival superpower would probably have to be given the right to wander into buildings which it could depict as being the scene of military activity, but which were not. This would afford many an opportunity for pillaging industrial secrets from relatively peaceable factories.

This debate, if such it can be called, is as old as the first nuclear disarmament talks between the United States and Soviet Union. It goes back to the late 1950s and 1960s. Lately, it has taken the form of a discussion about how much inspection of itself the Soviet Union is prepared to allow in connection with the removal by both sides of medium range nuclear missiles in Europe — the "zero-zero" option.

The Soviet Union was being as inhospitable as ever. But suddenly, on August 7, Mr Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister,

announced that his country would open all its territory to inspection in return for access to United States military facilities in Europe, but also to suspected chemical weapons plants and storage sites. There would have been potentially endless disputes about what constituted a possible chemical weapons site.

The United States and at least some of its European allies, or some of the more hard-headed elements among those allies, were suitably horrified. By yesterday it looked on the authority of *The Washington Post* as if President Reagan had reversed the policy almost of a lifetime, and had been browbeaten into proposing distinct limitations on the right of Soviet and American experts to inspect each other, as the Soviet Union had preferred all along.

Since there was always an element of play-acting in the position of both sides on the subject, yesterday's development could also be interpreted as a welcome return to realism by both prior to their getting on with the serious negotiations about medium range missiles in Europe. It may further be true that the acceptance by the Soviet Union of a full zero-zero option, instead of the partial agreement on offer hitherto, required a lower level of verification.

But it is more than that. The United States knew full well that the Soviet Union would retreat from Mr Shevardnadze's original generosity once the details came to be negotiated. What, for example, would be meant by access to "all" Soviet territory? The Soviet Union does not allow that to tourists, journalists, and indeed its own citizens, let alone to American nuclear experts.

Far better, from the point of view of enthusiasts for the zero-zero option, to grant the Soviet Union what it really wants and understands best — limited access to knowledge. But by satisfying the Soviet Union's fears — as well those of his own side — Mr Reagan is in danger of showing himself desperate for an arms agreement with Mr Gorbachev.

No verification process can be carried out through satellites alone. Satellites cannot peer through roofs or count hidden warheads. Mr Reagan's desire to end his presidency as a peacemaker should be respected. But by the time the treaty comes into its own, he will be chopping wood and riding horses on his Californian ranch. His successor, and Europe, may be living under a treaty which cannot be verified.

## PAUSE FOR LAW

Mr Hurd has returned from his holiday and set up a committee to review the law on the purchase and ownership of guns. Meanwhile semi-automatic weapons of the type which Michael Ryan used at Hungerford continue to be sold. With a ban in prospect, and with demand possibly boosted by publicity, there is the risk that in the short term sales might increase.

Is, therefore, such a review sufficient? It will necessarily take some time to complete. He has imposed no deadline on his officials. From the review will come a report which will have to be read, digested, consulted upon, shown to interested parties (including lobbyists interested in preventing change in the law). All that must happen before legislation results.

The Home Office counsels caution. It warns against rushing into decisions. This is the way the civil service works, and nowhere more powerfully than at Queen Anne's Gate.

Mr Hurd must ask himself whether, as a politician, he has done enough to reassure a worried public. Setting up a committee of civil servants to rummage through the law books may not look sufficiently robust. He might, perhaps, have emerged more energetically from that meeting on Monday with officials and the chief inspector of constabulary. It is tempting to argue that, for the sake of calming public anxiety, Mr Hurd should have presented the public with a recipe for instant action: an immediate ban, for example, on the

sale of the type of weapon used to such deadly effect in Berkshire last week.

That, however, would require legislation in the form of an amendment to the 1968 Firearms Act. The Act itemizes those weapons — machine guns principally, but also guns discharging gas cartridges and the like — which the public are prohibited from owning unless the Home Secretary or the Scottish Secretary gives specific permission. The list should surely include Kalashnikov rifles and their ilk; but Mr Hurd is right to want an exhaustive review of the statute law before he brings a new bill forward.

Until that time, the law provides chief constables with much discretion in issuing firearms certificates. It was open to Mr Hurd — and still is — to draft an immediate circular reminding them of the high standards they ought to require when they assess the "good character" of applicants. Chief constables can, in principle, add all sorts of conditions to the certificates they issue.

It would be possible for the police to make those conditions so stringent that the purchase of semi-automatic weapons was effectively prevented. The judgements of the police are, after all, subject to appeal and to review by the courts. It is to be hoped that the police will be issuing few certificates for such weapons in the next few months. By that time Mr Hurd's review ought to have issued into new law.

## BACK TO THE ARMADA?

King Juan Carlos of Spain, hitherto generally regarded as a good friend of this country, has suddenly chosen to present himself in the less pleasing role of a "candid friend". If newspaper reports are accurate, he has said that the thousands of British tourists who annually visit his domain in Majorca are not welcome because they are of poor quality. Infuriated Britons have, possibly with the aid of a bad conscience, chosen to interpret this as meaning that the King thinks us to be a nation of yobboes the presence of whose members on his soil is a source of nuisance and nausea to his own faithful and sober subjects. The response of the popular press in Britain has been strong.

Now, most of the evidence for the King's strictures is of a kind generally described with high-minded contempt as "anecdotal". Are British tourists conspicuously less well behaved than tourists from other lands? Alas! Common observation (the source of most opinions about everything) makes it impossible to deny that terrible charge with unblinking confidence.

If the charge is true, what explains this phenomenon? Do the British go mad when abroad in response to the relief felt at escaping from oppressive licensing laws at home (Mr Hurd is attending to that matter)? Are their excesses the result of unemployment which, according to other anecdotal evidence, is no bar to foreign travel? Or are they the bar to foreign travel? Or are they the culture introduced by Mrs Thatcher, or the widespread disappearance of religious worship from state schools, or of the films shown on British television? On these crucial issues, which merit years of expensive research, this newspaper will for the present maintain a devout agnosticism.

It is more useful to speculate on the probable consequences of King Carlos's words. These

will surely be negligible. The royal strictures, unhappily, are hardly likely to bring about any rapid improvement in the behaviour of young Britons who go on package tours to Spain. It also seems hardly likely (no doubt much to the relief of those responsible for the health of the Spanish economy) that they will have the effect of encouraging them to stay at home or go elsewhere.

For years, the travelling British public has been diligently warned by the press of the diverse hazards which attend visits to that country. Earlier this year, such visitors were warned of the danger of contracting a number of foul diseases from chimpanzees employed by Spanish photographers on Spanish beaches. There is the perennial danger of being blown up by ETA bombs on those same beaches. Over the years, there have been endless stories of British tourists being mugged by young Spaniards. It is even doubtful whether future visitors will be deterred by the hours of frustration lately inflicted on them at airports by the strike of Spanish air traffic controllers.

A few royal insults are unlikely to prevail where so much else has failed. Admittedly, a distinguished contemporary has uttered a robust call to patriotism. "We hope", *The Sun* writes, "that in future British tourists will go anywhere in the world but Spain. We hope that they will tell the high and mighty Juan Carlos just what he can do with his sunshine, his beaches, his sour wine and his mouldy paelia".

Past experience suggests, however, that *The Sun's* exhortation will not be heeded. The most that can be claimed for King Carlos's words is that they have provided a striking illustration of one of the most persistent of idealistic fallacies — the view that foreign travel promotes international amity. As a xenophobic sailor once remarked, "I never disliked a Chinaman until I met one".

## False economy on M40 motorway?

From Sir Robert Booth

Sir, There can surely be nothing more ludicrous than the attempt by the Under Secretary of State for Transport, Mr Bottomley, to refute criticism of his decision that 12 miles of the final 110 miles of the M40 motorway should be only two instead of three lanes in each direction (report, August 20).

He is quoted as saying that his department does not want to cover the whole countryside with concrete and tarmac. How does he reconcile this with his responsibility to create over £1 billion of new motorways and trunk roads annually, to provide Britain, however belatedly, with an adequate and efficient road system?

In any case, the land-lake for the 12 miles near Banbury is the same, whether the extra carriageway is built now or later. Nor can the extra cost of £4 million be a serious argument.

His case seems to be based on his confidence in his department's latest estimate that the maximum traffic flow will only be 38,000 vehicles a day and this will be within the design capacity of 50,000 vehicles a day. Surely, as the saying goes, he cannot be serious in that belief, when in only

a few months since completion figures now show that flows on one section of the M25 are 142,000 vehicles a day, against design forecasts of 80,000 vehicles a day.

A similar catastrophe will certainly arise if his traffic-flow figures for his proposed 12 miles of dual carriageway on the M40 are believed. Once again Murphy's Law will demonstrate that immediately a new motorway is opened traffic volumes exceed design forecasts, with large numbers of vehicles taking to the new route to avoid the already congested M1.

Then, once again, we shall be forced into the waste of unnecessary millions and inordinate delays for years for widening to three lanes which should have been built in the first place, as witness the expensive and frustrating holdups on the M5, still not completely upgraded after years of roadworks and contra-flows.

The industrial needs of the Midlands demand that the under secretary think again.

Yours sincerely,  
ROBERT BOOTH,  
White House, 7 Sandal Rise,  
Solihull, West Midlands.  
August 24.

## Hungerford killings

From the Director General of the Economic League

Sir, An article in a recent issue of an extreme right-wing magazine began with a sentence: "Every National Socialist in the course of political development reaches a stage when the acquisition of firearms is seriously considered".

It pointed out that weapons can be obtained illegally, either through the black market or through theft, but that the risks, not least of political embarrassment, are considerable if party members are caught with such weapons. Finally, it suggested that it is not difficult to convert legally held airguns into firearms and that there are in any case many equally effective substitutes for firearms.

The implications of this advice to anyone contemplating illegal use of firearms, whether for political or for any other purpose, is clearly that the existing legal framework already places very heavy restrictions on their legal possession and use and that the various illegal means of possession are the safer option. It follows from this that further tightening the laws on the legal market will do little to get to the root of the current problem.

There has been a huge increase

in recent years in the publication of anarchist and other extremist publications all advocating the use of arson, sabotage and straight violence and glorifying the use of weapons of all kinds. So long as this clear incitement is allowed to continue tinkering with the firearms regulations will have little effect.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL NOAR,  
Director General,  
The Economic League,  
7 Wine Office Court,  
Fleet Street, EC4A.  
August 21.

From the Headmaster of Hurstpierpoint College

Sir, In countless English towns and villages the peace of last Wednesday's sunny afternoon was unbroken. No killer walked their streets.

Only in shops in almost all those towns and villages there were for hire video films featuring fear, pain, hatred, horror and violent death.

If we give encouragement to the fantasy why should we be surprised at the reality?  
Yours faithfully,  
SIMON WATSON, Headmaster,  
Hurstpierpoint College,  
Hassocks, West Sussex.  
August 22.

## Right to silence

From Professor Michael Zander

Sir, Contrary to Frances Gibbs's assertion (article, August 24), I do not believe that the right of silence is used mainly by the hard core of experienced criminals. This is what the police believe, but there has never been any empirical evidence to support the belief. My own study of cases tried at the Old Bailey, for instance, showed that 12 defendants out of 282 were silent. Of these, four were motorists and the rest were accused of a variety of offences, some serious, others less so.

The fact is that a very small number of suspects are silent in the police station, some of whom no doubt are real villains but many of whom are not. Moreover, many of these are ultimately convicted. In my own sample only three of the 12 who were silent were acquitted. Abolition of the right of silence would make little difference to this picture.

But the main objection to the Home Secretary's notion of abolishing the right of silence is not that it would be ineffective so much as that it would be doubly wrong in principle.

First, it would undermine the fundamental common-law principle that an accused person

should not be put under official pressure to participate in the process leading to his own conviction. This is not just a sentimental hangover from former times; it represents part of the bedrock of the system.

Second, we have just had nearly 10 years of debate on the proper balance between police and suspect, starting with the appointment of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure in 1978 and culminating with Royal Assent for the Police and Criminal Evidence Act in 1984.

The royal commission concluded that the right of silence should stay and this was accepted by Mrs Thatcher's government and Mr Hurd's two immediate predecessors as an integral part of the balance between citizen and the police.

For Mr Hurd now to propose that this carefully constructed balance be demolished on so fundamental a point is to make a mockery of the entire process set in train when the royal commission was appointed.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL ZANDER,  
The London School of Economics and Political Science,  
Law Department,  
Houghton Street, WC2.  
August 24.

## Reducing cancer risk

From Dr D. P. Burkitt, FRS

Sir, The news of discoveries that may lead to early diagnosis and better treatment of bowel cancer (August 13) is welcome. The statement that "The ultimate aim would be a drug to cure bowel cancer" must, however, be challenged.

Reduction in the frequency of this disease must surely be the ultimate aim and very few diseases of any kind have ever been reduced in frequency as a result of improved treatment.

Bowel cancer is one of the diseases that is particularly characteristic of modern Western culture. The incidence rates are lowest in less economically developed populations and highest in affluent and industrialised societies. It is today, but not formerly, almost as common in black as in

white Americans, yet it is over 10 times as common in the former as it is in Africans.

It is generally accepted that diet is the major environmental factor determining its frequency, and the currently most acceptable concept is that excess fat plays a causative and adequate fibre a protective role.

It would never be said that the ultimate aim with respect to lung cancer was to improve treatment. It is to lessen the frequency of the disease by reducing the identified cause, cigarette smoking. Likewise with bowel cancer the ultimate aim must be to identify causative and protective factors and reduce the former while enhancing the latter.

Yours faithfully,  
DENIS BURKITT,  
Barnhill Cottage, Wells Road,  
Bisley, Gloucestershire.

## 'Spycatcher' ruling

From Mr Robin Bruce Lockhart

Sir, Three months before *Viking/Penguin* published *Spycatcher* they published a new book of mine (*Relly: The First Man*). The original draft of my book contained a number of references to Peter Wright and allegations he made to me — not, incidentally, mentioned in his own book — but, in keeping with the spirit of the British law, I requested *Viking/Penguin* to delete all references to Peter Wright, doubtless losing out on sales.

I cannot help but feel that in the case of *Spycatcher* the British press is infinitely more concerned with newspaper sales than matters

of genuine public interest, of which I would gauge only some 10 to 15 per cent of the book might be so termed.

The Press Council took the initiative some time ago to bring to an end the disreputable practice of newspapers paying well-known criminals for their memoirs. How much more important must it be for the council to take steps to prevent the press from handing out money for the revelations of the secrets of their trade to former intelligence officers.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN BRUCE LOCKHART,  
Quand Mémé,  
30 rue Romain Rolland,  
66190 Collioure,  
Pyrénées Orientales, France.

## Putting the case for Zimbabwe

From Mr J. G. Cluff

Sir, Your leading article on Zimbabwe (August 24) was, to say the least, patronising and unfair. I have business interests there and concede that accordingly I am liable to be accused of special pleading. However, on account of those interests I have, over the last seven years, spent much time there and have met many of the government ministers, including Mr Mugabe.

One paragraph in particular I shall challenge to illustrate my concern. Your leader states in the penultimate paragraph:

One-party government is not the remedy for Zimbabwe's crippling foreign debt, its lack of foreign exchange, its growing unemployment and its negative growth rate of around 6 per cent.

What then is the remedy for these ills? The foreign debt is largely an inheritance from the mess created by Ian Smith's one-party white government and it should be understood by your readers that Zimbabwe has always honoured its foreign debt obligations, unlike many other nations, not all of them black.

The lack of foreign exchange is largely attributable not to any "maladministration" but rather to

two crippling years of drought and disastrously low tobacco prices. No doubt your leader writer believes that democracy will improve the weather.

The country's growing unemployment is indeed a problem — 50 per cent of the population is under 15 years of age — and that is largely because Mr Mugabe's government has honoured its pledge to its people by substantially improving the quality of medical care.

Your leader cannot find anything good to say about Zimbabwe, I can. In contrast to the deplorable example set by the previous white government Mr Mugabe has tackled a herculean task in, on the whole, a thoroughly decent and responsible manner. Certainly he needs foreign investment and a more careful approach would help obtain it. However, I find your naive polemic, presented without any reference to Mr Mugabe's many achievements, profoundly depressing.

Yours faithfully,  
ALCY CLUFF,  
Clova,  
Lumsden, Aberdeenshire.  
August 25.

## ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 26 1885

The first Grasmere sports were held in 1882. One of its most popular features, the Cumberland and Westmorland-style wrestling is said to have been introduced by Norse settlers. The guides race was added to the programme in 1889.

## THE GRASMERE SPORTS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

... They [the spectators] have come in every species of conveyance, from the lordly drag to the lowly one-horse cart, and from the char-a-banc to the bicycle, to see fine sport and fair play. As regards the latter there are cynics who say that even at Grasmere there are certain foregone conclusions, but if so they are invisible to the unskilled eye.

... By what convenient accident it happens that the lot never brings two famous athletes together early in the day, but reserves those exciting exhibitions for its close. I know not, though I cannot help suspecting that Fortune must be assisted in the matter. When the proper time arrives, however, we are fully compensated for the delay.

To see these mountains of men, on legs like balustrades, place their heads confidently over each other's shoulders, and then, moving gently their enormous arms like the antennae of some monstrous insect, and swaying them as sway the gigantic leaves of some aquatic plant, as they feel for a hold around the other's waist, is a strange spectacle; but stranger still when all this tentative quietude is in one instant — when the hold is found — changed to the stretch and strain of combat, when the muscles stand out in knots, and every vein is swollen and every sinew is taut with tension; when they cling shoulder to shoulder and neck to neck, and at last touch ground, perhaps so nearly at the same instant and so "inveterately convulsed" that it requires a practised eye indeed to award the palm.

But no amateur, nor any South countryman at all, however, could vie with the native athletes in what is called the "guides race". The name is a relic of the days when Lake tourists needed guides, whose services are now less seldom called into requisition to show the shortest way up Helvellyn, or even Scawfell Pike, than to carry the provisions suitable for those expeditions. But, anyway, the candidates for the prize are the most speedy and agile of the dalesmen. Their object is to ascend Silver How — a fall of some 1,000 ft. high, the summit of which is about a mile from the ring — and return from it in the shortest possible time. Nine competitors, all attired in gay colours, start together at a speed which never seems to be relaxed from the moment they leave us till they come... bounding over the stone wall again, which is "home". From the nature of the place wherein the Grasmere sports are held — which is an amphitheatre — every movement of these men can be watched as they leap the brooks and climb the walls and scale the steep, till they round the red flag on the hilltop. Never before have I seen any human beings in motion, and not on horseback, who at so great a distance gave me such an impression of speed.

The winner takes fourteen minutes and a half to perform the whole feat, four minutes and a half of which he consumes in coming down, the quickest time in which the descent, I believe, has yet been made. What is most amazing is that these men come in quite fresh, and clamber up the last wall like panthers.

A sad story of recent date is told in connection with it. One of the competitors, the evening before the race, reconnoitring the course with care, found a short way down over a precipitous drop. Here he placed some bracken to fall soft upon, and, as the other competitors avoided the spot from its steepness, thus stole a march upon them and won the prize. The next day his device was discovered, whereupon he committed suicide.

## News fit to smoke

From Mr Barry Winkelman

Sir, I do not wish to disillusion your correspondent (Mr Lefebvre, August 21) but I fear it is not only newspapers in totalitarian countries that go up in smoke.

In 1966, shortly after I joined *The Times* promotion department, I noticed the map above the circulation manager's desk which showed the sales figures of the paper in all European countries. Turkey towered above the rest. The manager had no explanation for this, but he had always wondered why the local distributor insisted only on the airmail paper edition.

I had just returned from a long stay in Greece, where my airmail editions of *British newspapers* were in great demand by the local smokers since, in their country as in Turkey, where tobacco is grown, cigarette papers were illegal.

I was able to point out that, alas, Turkey's appetite for *The Times* had less to do with the excellence of our coverage of Balkan news than with the superb smoking qualities of the airmail paper it was then printed on.

Yours,  
BARRY WINKELMAN,  
Gracedieu, Upper Waddington,  
Banbury, Oxfordshire.  
August 23.

## Piling it on

From Mrs Philip Rambaut

Sir, During the recent general election we were all subjected to the frequent use of the expression by every politician and political commentator on radio and television, "I/we/they have made it clear/very clear/perfectly clear/absolutely clear" or even, on special occasions, "abundantly clear".

Sometimes the matter in question was not a bit clear, but never mind... one just hoped that the election would soon be over and it would stop. No such luck! They are still at it.

Can any of your readers suggest some other phrase for these people to use to express their clarity of thought?

Yours in a muddle,  
CELIA RAMBAUT,  
Beck House, Bosley,  
Macclesfield, Cheshire.











## THE ARTS

## A kind of hell

While Michael Grade is this week removing lowbrow violence from our screens, *Brimstone and Treacle* (BBC1), Dennis Potter's controversial play banned by Alasdair Milne 11 years ago, was given the go-ahead.

"Can't you smell the sulphur?" cackled Martin (Michael Kitchen) as the devil at large on the streets of London in the guise of a student. Casually insinuating himself into the oppressive beige of suburbia where Mr and Mrs Bates (Denholm Elliott and Patricia Lawrence) were already sitting in some

## TELEVISION

kind of hell, shrouding their handicapped daughter behind closed curtains, Martin got up to all kinds of tricks including rape, and satanic mumbo-jumbo.

Despite excellent performances *Brimstone and Treacle* left behind a taste in the mouth less like sulphur than rich and smelly putrefying fruit — the effect unpleasant but temporary. For all the notoriety Potter was cruising around the subject of evil without quite hitting the mark.

The facts that emerged during *The Price of Progress* (ITV) were distressing enough without Bob Geldof's now predictable presentation. With his Band Aid project Geldof raised around \$1 million to be used in relief-funding in the Third World as compared to the \$30 billion apparently absorbed and mismanaged each year by multilateral banks, ostensibly for the same purpose.

Switching between the senior vice-president of the World Bank and a dam being built almost entirely by grateful Indian women, *The Price of Progress* cleverly explored the gap between corporate ideals and the resulting social and environmental damage.

Alexandra Shulman

## Devotion to hidden delights

## OPERA

John Higgins reports  
on welcome revivals  
at the August Rossini  
Festival in Pesaro

In August there are two Pesaros. On the strip of beach every square foot of sand is covered; at dawn the striped umbrellas open like autumn mushrooms and at dusk they fold away. Pesaro is another Adriatic holiday resort, though maybe a bit sprucer than some which need not be mentioned.

The second Pesaro is a mere three streets inland but a world away. Maybe Stendhal was being a bit fulsome when he described its sensual charm in his *Vie de Rossini*, but traces of it remain still. It may be easy to walk past Rossini's natal house, which is closed for unscheduled repair and has only a grubby plaque over the front door, but in the green and leafy courtyard of the Conservatory the statue of the composer sits in an ample armchair contemplating something — perhaps tournois, perhaps a *Pêche de vieillesse*. The retiring room for the conductor by the side of the auditorium there (now hand-somely restored to seat 600 or so) must be among the grandest in Europe, right down to its paintings. The town theatre, now called inevitably the Teatro Rossini, is a few paces away.

These two buildings are the twin pivots of the August Rossini Festival, plus the Piazza del Popolo where there are live transmissions of selected opera performances to an audience paying about 5,000 lire (£2.50) a head. When all the fuss was made about the transmission of the Covent Garden *Bohème* a couple of months ago, Pesarians were heard to point out gently that they had been doing it for some years now.

The opera which almost forcibly put Pesaro on the international map was *Il viaggio a Reims*, which with a cast that glittered as much on stage as it did on paper went on



The fury of a lover spurned: Ermione (Montserrat Caballe) confronts Pyrrhus (Chris Merritt) and (above) Rossini at the time of Ermione

to La Scala and on to record, courtesy DG. But the city has stuck to its principle of staging unknown Rossini — or at least little-known, for the ranks of the unknown have thinned out markedly. This year's major work is *Ermione* at the Teatro Rossini, written for Naples in 1819 and not heard since, if the archives are to be trusted, except in a couple of concert performances.

The starting-point for Totola's libretto is Racine's *Andromaque*, which probably led some critics who had never heard of *Ermione* to call it Gluckian. It is not. Stendhal, in his chronological table of Rossini's operas, claims that "the characters are, to all intents and purposes, given nothing to portray except bad temper". Wrong again, unless two murders, one attempted on the life of Andromache's son Astyanax (still alive in Racine if not in Euripides) and the other highly effective on King Pyrrhus, go into the bad temper category. In *Pesaro Ermione* emerges for about three-quarters of its length as an opera in Rossini's grandest style: it may not be another *Semiramide* but at times it comes within touching distance.

The first act is almost totally

successful with *Andromache*, in the somewhat slimmed-down shape of Marilyn Horne, lamenting the fall of Troy and trying to keep the attentions of Pyrrhus at a reasonable distance. Miss Horne, with her chest register as majestic as ever and the middle of the voice having more warmth than it has sometimes possessed, was a model of Trojan motherhood. Rossini's score demands three tenors, all capable of delivering a series of punishingly high notes, and Pesaro provided them.

Chris Merritt has improved beyond recognition from his *Donna del lago* at Covent Garden. His showpiece aria "Balen in man del figlio" might not be the best number in the score, but the duets with Ermione carried all the vocal guns to suggest that he will be the next Arnoldo when someone decides to do *Guglielmo Tell* — and there is much talk of it for La Scala. Rockwell Blake, almost a Rossini veteran now, dispatched the highest-lying role of all, Orestes, with a minimum of ugly notes. The trio was completed with considerable *clan* by Giuseppe Morino, a new name to me, who is built on much the same lines as Mr Merritt, which are not svelte.

And so to the title-role and

Montserrat Caballe. Ermione — or Hermione — has a fairly wretched time dramatically; she is spurned in favour of Andromache, she regrets having Pyrrhus murdered, and she is finally left alone as Orestes highlights it out of town before Pyrrhus's men and the Eumenides catch him. But she has the best music. Mme Caballe moved around the stage with a regality that would have made Queen Victoria appear servile and she delivered the notes.

On the opening night she dealt summarily with a small faction in the house who presumably would have preferred another soprano in the part and interrupted her Act II scene. At the curtain-calls Caballe requested a score from the pit and waved it in the faces of the offenders. Hell hath no composure like a Caballe scorned. The gesture inspired Gustav Kuhn to kneel at her feet — not a very normal act for a conductor, but quite Racinian.

Kuhn himself deserved a bit of hero-worship for an account of the score that realized many of its beauties and never allowed the pace to fade. Robert de Simone's production was something in the style of the Paris *Semiramide*, with the courtiers in early 19th-century dress and the principals in flowing

robes, heavily embroidered for the women and encrusted with bangles, baubles and beads for the men. Enrico Job's circular view of the action framed in pitch-pine provided one ravishing Mediterranean landscape at the opening of Act II and a number of comfortable seats for the principals. A very grand evening.

By total contrast the festival opened in the Conservatory Theatre with *L'occasione fa il ladro* ("Chance makes a Thief"), played as it should be in a single act and given a feather-light production by Jean-Pierre Ponnelle, a long-time expert in Rossini comedy. The simple plot, described on this page a couple of weeks ago when the opera was revived at Buxton, concerns a change of identity helped by a switch of luggage at a country inn.

Ponnelle literally drags his characters out of the bag. A figure looking faintly like Rossini delivers the score at the very last moment to the conductor (Salvatore Accardo making a highly auspicious debut in opera) from a Gladstone bag which he then places on stage. From it are conjured singers and even stage-hands. "Rossini" turns into the servant Martino, who

promptly proves in the shape of Claudio Desderi that, when a major singer is engaged for a minor character, it makes commercial sense to build the part up a bit.

The star role goes to the soprano, and Luciana Serra, who possibly spent too long among vapid coloratura creatures, proves she is a sharp actress as well as an agile singer. Even so she had difficulties with her opening aria, in which the 20-year-old Rossini showed no mercy. J. Patrick Rafferty, another much improved actor, played the impostor as a straightforward Irish chancer — all charm and glib. Raul Gimenez, whose tenor fitted this small house ideally, is the Count who gets the right girl in the end. But the evening is really Ponnelle's, hinging on his joy in artifice and jokes that can only belong in the live theatre.

In between operas Katia Ricciarelli arrived for an open-air recital with orchestra. The fan club is even more substantial now she is married to one of Italian television's top personalities. But the evening was too weightily planned — starting with "Casta Diva" was no indication of frivolity — and it was only with a trio of Rossini encores, including "Bel raggio lusinghier", that the mood of the audience was truly judged.

Next year promises Rossini's *Otello* (with June Anderson and Chris Merritt), which had quite a lot of popularity in the Sixties before the deriders got into their stride, and *La scala di seta*, which is much in the style of *L'occasione*. The final performances of Ermione are tonight and on Saturday and Tuesday.

## PROMENADE CONCERT

CLS/Hickox  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

One virtue of Michael Collins as a clarinetist is the pleasure he takes in works that might be thought unfairly neglected, like the Concerto by Gerald Finzi. Its limitation of texture to the contrast of solo instrument and strings ensures that the prevailing warmth and gentility should obscure neither the required skill of technique nor the range of feeling. Both qualities were forthcoming from the soloist at this performance, not least in a central slow movement of sustained gravity.

Richard Hickox shaped the City of London Sinfonia's contribution to correspond,

and should thereby have aroused his listeners' interest in a work that fitted gracefully into a programme with a strong folk interest, like the short, pungent Dance Preludes by Witold Lutoski, which again brought Mr Collins to the fore. The Polish composer was long a friend of Britten, whose own Suite on English Folk Tunes of 1975 brought him back shortly before his death to what he always acknowledged as a formative influence.

It was given a vigorous performance, fortunately with rather more charm than the conductor brought to either his brisk, not to say brusque, account of Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin*, or to the four-square and sometimes leisure-footed rhythm imposed on Prokofiev's "Classical" Symphony.

Noël Goodwin

## Tennstedt hard to replace

Klaus Tennstedt's resignation as music director of the London Philharmonic, after breaking down at rehearsal on Monday, is a severe, if not unexpected, blow to this ambitious orchestra. There is no obvious successor, so the LPO will be without a principal conductor at a time of intense speculation about all the London orchestras' futures.

The best-known conductors with whom the LPO has established casual links — Daniel Barenboim, Riccardo Muti or Simon Rattle — are committed to other projects until the 1990s; contenders like the highly-rated Semyon Bychkov and the young Austrian Franz Welser-Möst are as yet largely unknown to the London public. — R.M.

## Hilarious hat trick

## THEATRE

The Life of  
Napoleon  
Riverside

It is a long time since I found myself laughing out loud while reading a theatre programme; jockey entries are generally pretty wretched. Yet the info for this 90-minute journey along the life of the Little Emperor not only lists the supporting cast — Edward Fox, Marlene Dietrich, Orson Welles, Woody Allen — but contains instructions for folding the programme afterwards into a Napoleonic hat.

I prefer not to remark on its success as a hat or to mention a tendency to slip upwards over the forehead. But then I lack the black streaks of hair affected by the Emperor, and by John Sessions who plays him, as well as a fine selection of his contemporaries, though the voices are all our contemporaries, give or take a decade: Donald Sinden, Tony Hancock. Dirty Den.

The stage, naturally, is a map of Europe. An obelisk marks Paris and up this Sessions sometimes clambors to call upon the citizens and armies of France. The rest of



John Sessions: calling on the citizens and armies of France

the time he is dashing about the Continent, giving us the low-down on the facts of his life from the womb (literally) to the tomb (very literally).

When he is funny he is very, very funny; when he is not funny he is never dull. His command of other people's voices ranges between the creditably competent and the perfectly extraordinary.

Most remarkable of all are the faces he gets absolutely right at the same time. The open mouth of his Alec McCowen, doing his best to defend Toulon, is uncannily recognizable as he snaps out the cut-off syllables. There are

dreadful puns, highly intelligent puns, fractured français, showbiz deflations, pastiches of literary styles, parodies of well-known voices — few of which need the identifying tags that Sessions feels obliged to give them.

This takes his performance down to the level of Variety whereas really he is like nobody else. He uses language like a poet; he can jump from the raft at Tilsit to Huck Finn on the Mississippi and make the metaphor work. And he indicates very pertinent views about Death and Glory.

Jeremy Kingston

## British vitality

## EARLY MUSIC

Stephen Pettitt at a  
young festival in the  
depths of Burgundy

widely noted success on the Edinburgh fringe, but its impact in Britain has since been limited for want of sponsorship. On the evidence presented at Ancy le Franc, however, Opera Restor'd remains a vital and refreshing force, and it is good news that British audiences will be able to see the group in action on the South Bank next year.

Here the company presented four works in productions by Jack Edwards, only one of which — Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* — was a repertoire piece. There was John Frederick Lampe's "mock-opera" *Pyramus and Thisbe* (1745) and a double bill (necessarily staged indoors, in an impressive large panelled hall, for the performances I saw) which contrasted *The Death of Dido*, composed in 1716 by Han-

del's great London rival Johan Christoph Pepusch, with Charles Dibdin's outrageously silly *The Ephesian Matron* (1769).

Pepusch's work was magnificently clothed by Robin Linklater and beautifully choreographed and neatly sung too, Brian Gordon's eloquent and emotional counter-tenor garnishing an Aeneas of real significance and Susan Bisatt playing Dido with convincingly regal ardency. Despite his reputation, engineered mostly by Burney, as a dry academician, Pepusch clearly possessed a great feeling for drama, an original touch of invention and an ability to compose some scorchingly emotional music.

In the deliberately farcical Dibdin, Bisatt took the role of the servant who mischievously points out the hypocrisy of mourning. Theresa Lister's maoum was nicely overwrought, at least until Neil Lum's Centurion distracted her. David Kirkby-Ashmore, as the father, and Alan McMahon, as the dead husband on the bier, completed a sharp cast, while Peter Homan directed the small ensemble from a harpsichord imported from England. Next year, hopefully, ideas and organization will combine more smoothly, and the courtyard will be filled with ordinary Burgundians as well as those of greater resources.

## EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

## Terracotta Army Playhouse

The Arts Minister missed the point when he suggested that the Edinburgh Festival should think of specializing in fewer arts. It is the festival's diversity that is its chief value, encouraging people who have come primarily because of one special interest to sample something different and perhaps enrich their lives.

This dance drama from Xian is a case in point. Some of the actual statues unearthed there in 1974 were exhibited later at Edinburgh, and now they form the basis of this production. It is really more a pageant than an ordinary dance show and should interest a wide public.

Qin Shi Huang, whose tomb is guarded by the 6,000 or more lifelike, life-sized statues, united six kingdoms into one empire and seems to have been an enlightened despot. The production puts more emphasis on the enlightenment than the despotism. It shows one of his archers, Qin Peng, dying in battle; his widow carrying a statue in his memory; and the emperor commanding further statues to commemorate his many brave warriors.

This thin and unlikely plot

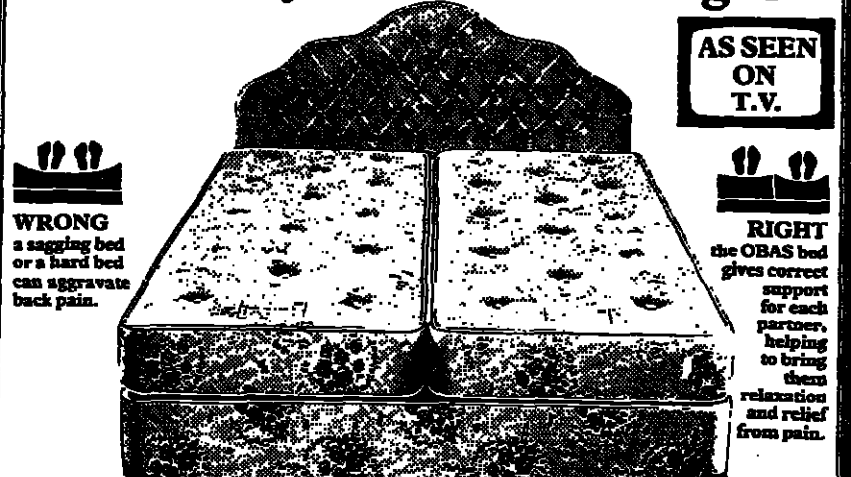
is enough for scenes of battle, public celebration and private grief, and a finale in which almost the entire cast, marching on the spot in front of a painted backdrop, suggest the hordes of clay figures — which are, surprisingly, an unprepossessing dark grey.

The production mixes Chinese and western, ancient and modern. The small orchestra plays on European instruments to achieve an effect that is, in our ears, often unfamiliar but not always so: the early battle scenes bring the Bolshoi *Spartacus* to mind in their music as well as their choreography.

Among the leading players, the performer of Qin Peng has obviously mastered at least some of the acrobatic tricks of Peking Opera. The woman who plays his wife, on the other hand, must surely have had ballet training, and uses its skills to create a touching characterization. I wish I could name these players for the praise they deserve, but the programme merely lists the entire company without saying who does what.

Among the rest of the cast, it is the group effects that most deserve praise, especially a folk-dance in which the women's sleeves suddenly prove to be extensible and produce an impression like waving banners. I must mention, too, a kind of pantomime hippopotamus that joins in the celebrations. At times almost endearingly amateurish, this is an unusual and interesting entertainment.

John Percival

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## TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Davalle  
and Jane Rackham

## BBC1

6.00 *Cartoon AM*.  
6.30 *Leon Errol in Who's A Dummy?* (b/w).  
7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough, Sally Magnusson, Jeremy Paxman and Pamela Anderson. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news and travel reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25.  
8.30 *The Pink Panther Show* Three cartoons (r).  
9.00 *Children's BBC*. Magazine programme presented by Anthea Turner starts with *Charlie Brown*. Cartoon (r). 9.30 *Heartbeat* explores making pictures out of fabric (r).  
10.00 *News* and weather. 10.05 *Neighbours* (r).  
10.25 *Play School*, followed by *The Postcard* (r). 10.55 *Five to Seven* with *Cliff*.  
11.00 *News* and weather. 11.05 *Zorro's Fighting Legion* (b/w). Part six of the classic adventure series.  
11.35 *Video Active*. Sue Robbie reports on how to enhance your home videos by adding music and commentary (r).  
12.00 *News* and weather. 12.05 *Dallas* (r).  
12.55 *Regional News* and weather. 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Philip Hulton, followed by weather.  
1.25 *Neighbours* (r).  
1.50 *Film: New Moon* (1940, b/w). Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy sing their way through *Edward G. Robinson's* songs in this musical about a marriage of convenience that gradually becomes the real thing. Directed by Robert Z. Leonard.  
2.35 *Cartoons*.  
2.45 *Gardener's Direct Line*. Geoffrey Smith and Gill Sowerbutts attempt to solve your phoned-in gardening problems.

4.10 *The Puppy's New Adventures* (r). 4.35 *The Really Wild Show* (b/w).  
5.00 *Newsround*. 5.10 *Colour in the Creek*. Part six of the drama series about the Australian gold miners (r). 5.35 *The Muppet Babies* (r).  
6.00 *Six O'Clock News*, weather. 6.35 *London Plus*.  
7.00 *Wogan*. Derek Jameson's guests include Australian millionaire Keith Rouse, who recently became Earl of Strathmore, and Bill Wiggins who recently became Joan Collins's boyfriend.  
7.45 *News*.  
8.00 *The Colours of the Arrow*. A television series about a dangerous island (r).  
8.30 *University Challenge*.  
9.00 *Goody Game Show* (r). 11.10 *Albion* (r).  
11.25 *News*.  
11.30 *Tomorrow Talking*. Short features voice their opinions about education.  
12.00 *The Sullivan*. Family drama.  
12.30 *ITN News*. 12.55 *News*.  
1.00 *A Country Practice*. Medical drama series set in a remote rural Australian community.  
2.00 *Password*. John Inman and Moira Anderson join Gordon Burns for today's word association game.  
2.30 *Dinner in France*. Pierre Salinger visits Champagne to learn how it is produced (r).  
3.00 *Take the High Road*. 3.25 *News*.  
3.50 *Sons and Daughters*.  
4.00 *Children's TV* presented by Gary Terzza and Debbie Shore, starting with *Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends*.  
4.10 *The Mindy* (r). 4.30 *Video & Chips*.  
4.45 *Ken Hom's Chinese Cookery*. The subject for the last of the series is fish; among the recipes demonstrated are sweetcorn and crabmeat soup, and steamed fish with garlic, spring onions and ginger (r).  
5.15 *Weather*, close.

## BBC2

6.55 *Open University*. Community education in Belfast. Ends 7.30.  
9.00 *Cartoon*.  
1.20 *The Pumps* (r).  
1.35 *Cartoon*.  
3.00 *News* and weather, followed by *The Circus*. Film of the Circus Enfantin, traditional travelling players from Southern Italy who play a town for three days, then pack up and move on.  
3.55 *News* and weather, followed by regional news and weather.  
4.00 *Year of the French*. Documentary about Louis Mahus, a French parish priest with a passion for the Celtic language and culture (r).  
4.30 *Film: Princess Pats* (1940). Starring Ginger Rogers as the girl from the 'wrong side of the tracks' who falls in love with an upper-class youth. Directed by Gregory La Cava.  
6.00 *Film: Flaming Star* (1960). Western drama starring Elvis Presley as a half-breed who is caught in the middle when war breaks out between the Kiowa Indians and the white settlers. Directed by Don Siegel.

7.30 *Open Spaces*. Documentary about Eric Pessier, a 75-year-old who has survived life in a German POW camp and Siberian prison camp, and is now fighting to overcome the disabilities of massive stroke.  
8.00 *Cartoon*.  
8.30 *Wildlife Showcase*. George River Caribou. Documentary about the plight of the Caribou who are able to withstand the hardships of their Caribou life. Directed by David Macdonald.  
9.00 *M\*A\*S\*H*. The 407th and Captain B J Hunnicutt are introduced (r).  
9.45 *Screenplay: White Lady* (see Choice).  
10.30 *Newsnight*.  
11.15 *Weather*. 11.20 *Interval*.  
11.30 *Open University*. Caring for Britain's birds. 11.55 *News: Estimation*. Ends 12.30.

## ITV/LONDON

6.00 *TV-am* introduced by Caroline Righon and Richard Keys. News at 6.30 and 6.45; financial news at 6.55; sport at 6.40; and exercises at 6.55.  
7.00 *Good Morning Britain* presented by Kay Burley and Richard Keys. News at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30.  
8.35 *Wacday* with Timmy Mallett and Michael Strachan.  
9.25 *News*.  
9.30 *Stanley* (r).  
10.00 *The Coral Island*. The Arrow is shown on a beautiful but dangerous coral island (r).  
10.30 *University Challenge*.  
11.00 *Goody Game Show* (r). 11.10 *Albion* (r).  
11.25 *News*.  
11.30 *Tomorrow Talking*. Short features voice their opinions about education.  
12.00 *The Sullivan*. Family drama.  
12.30 *ITN News*. 12.55 *News*.  
1.00 *A Country Practice*. Medical drama series set in a remote rural Australian community.  
2.00 *Password*. John Inman and Moira Anderson join Gordon Burns for today's word association game.  
2.30 *Dinner in France*. Pierre Salinger visits Champagne to learn how it is produced (r).  
3.00 *Take the High Road*. 3.25 *News*.  
3.50 *Sons and Daughters*.  
4.00 *Children's TV* presented by Gary Terzza and Debbie Shore, starting with *Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends*.  
4.10 *The Mindy* (r). 4.30 *Video & Chips*.  
4.45 *Ken Hom's Chinese Cookery*. The subject for the last of the series is fish; among the recipes demonstrated are sweetcorn and crabmeat soup, and steamed fish with garlic, spring onions and ginger (r).  
5.15 *Weather*, close.

## CHANNEL 4

2.30 *Netball: The World*. Tournament coverage from Crown Point Sports Centre in Glasgow includes the qualifying rounds for tomorrow's semi-finals. With Sally McLean.  
4.30 *Coumcountdown*. Richard Whitley chairs the words and numbers game with Derek Nimmo in charge of the dictionary.  
5.00 *Cartoon Carnival*. Introduced by Ray Alan and Lord Charles.  
5.30 *Cartoon*.  
6.00 *My World and Welcome*. A comedy series about the cartoons and writings of humorist James Thurber.  
6.30 *The Dragon Has Two Tongues*. Wynford Vaughan-Thomas and Professor Gwyn All Williams continue their debate about the history of the Welsh. This week they disagree about whether it was David Lloyd George or Karl Marx who represented Welsh political aspirations from 1880 to 1918 (r).  
7.00 *Channel 4 News*.

## CHANNEL 4

7.50 *Comment*, followed by *Weather*.  
8.00 *The Home Service*. Judith Chalmers visits a Benedictine abbey, home of *Crossroads* actress Gabrielle Drake; and Andy Craig reports from the Convent of the Sisters of the Holy Trinity where a 20-year fight ended in victory for the local people.  
8.30 *Socially Unacceptable*. Unmarried Mothers (see Choice).  
9.00 *Cartoon*.  
9.30 *Cartoon*.  
10.30 *Barry Douglas Plays Brahms*. The winner of the 1986 Gold Medal at the 1986 International Piano Competition in concert with the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Myung-Whun Chung. Second part of the documentary about the rise of Islam. Ends 12.35.

## The earth strikes back

## TELEVISION CHOICE

David Rudkin's contribution to the *Screenplay* series, *White Lady* (BBC2, 9.45pm) is ostensibly the story of a father whose marriage has come apart, struggling to bring up his two young daughters in the still loneliness of the English countryside. But those familiar with Rudkin's previous work will rightly guess that there is rather more to it than that. Hardly have the opening credits rolled than we are treated to a gruesome slide show of animal and vegetable mutilation — the skeleton of a hamster, the bone marrow of a guinea pig, liver tumours in mice and wheat, beetroot and other crops contaminated by pesticides. Interlarded with stark black and white images with lush footage of swaying barley and abundant fruit trees, Rudkin is making his point about man's unthinking poisoning of the bounty of the good earth. The *White Lady* (Meg Wynn Owen), an ethereal apparition bearing a huge scythe, is Rudkin's dramatic device for talking revenge as she spirits away the healthy little girls and leaves poisoned changelings for their father to find. It is a bleak and uncomfortable piece which at the same time celebrates the richness of the land (tables piled high with a cornucopia of fruit and vegetables like some overblown harvest festival) and renders questionable the means by which it was produced. Directed by Rudkin himself with a quietly effective eye for the telling image, *White Lady* is a piece of polemic which unfolds with icy precision. The father (played by Cornelius Garrett) dutifully feeds and clothes his children, tries to make them strong but wants them to

Meg Wynn Owen as the avenger (in background) and Sophie Thompson in *White Lady* (on BBC2, 9.45pm)

make do on little. He does his best to patch up the derelict farmhouse in which they all live. But he is a cheerful creature, at odds with his world and destined to suffer. We cannot help but suffer with him. The power of Rudkin's script lies in its ability to implicate us all.

Rejected by her father, she went alone into hospital for a delivery and almost hoped she would die. The baby was adopted by her unmarried sister and came to know her mother as 'Auntie Amy'. Society was still appalled in the supposedly permissive sixties when Mary Kane, studying botany at Hull University, became pregnant by a fellow student. Abortion was then illegal and she refused to have the baby adopted thus going against the wishes of her parents who would not have the child home until it was two-and-a-half Mary struggled on alone and survived to become Mayor of Camden and a magistrate. Gosling's third interview is with Mary Rooney, who has chosen to bring up her two children as a single parent and in today's changed climate can live off the welfare state, openly and without a trace of shame.

Peter Waymark

## A true tale of skull-digery

## RADIO CHOICE

When you are listening to Radio Wales's blood-chilling documentary *The Brain Operation* (Radio 4, 8.15pm), it is comparatively speaking, of little importance that it is a piece of polemic which unfolds with icy precision. The father (played by Cornelius Garrett) dutifully feeds and clothes his children, tries to make them strong but wants them to

W.C. Fields as he appeared in the film *The Bank Dick*: Film Star, Radio 4, 12.25pm

There are no errors of judgement and only one of fact (*David Copperfield* was made by MGM, not Paramount) in Alexander Walker's Film Star profile of W.C. Fields (Radio 4, 12.25pm). The bumbling comedian was, indeed, the great misanthrope of the movies, as Walker says, he did have to wait until he was under a tombstone before he came to be regarded as

lovable, it is absolutely true that he did not act on screen, but rather personified the attitude that since he was in a world of people out to do him down, it behooved him to do them down first. But if 'Never give a sucker an even break' became as much his philosophy of life as it was the title of one of his movies, there was another guiding principle he adopted which, as Walker makes clear, was scarcely less quintessentially Fieldian. It was 'Never trust a woman behind your back — even when she's only gone there to scratch your back'. Although Walker talks of the genius of Fields, he makes no attempt to analyse it. This is not characteristic of Walker, and it leads one to suspect that Fields may well have been so much of an original that he defies the power of the capsule analyst to reduce him to a convenient size.

Peter Davalle

We regret that, due to a filing error, the photograph of Lady Bird Johnson on this page yesterday was captioned Betty Ford.

Unmarried mother Mary Rooney and her children: *Socially Unacceptable* (Channel 4, 8.30pm. See Choice)

**BBC1** 12.30 *Wales Today* 12.35 *The First Steps* 12.40 *Wales Today* 12.45 *Wales Today* 12.50 *Wales Today* 12.55 *Wales Today* 1.00 *Wales Today* 1.05 *Wales Today* 1.10 *Wales Today* 1.15 *Wales Today* 1.20 *Wales Today* 1.25 *Wales Today* 1.30 *Wales Today* 1.35 *Wales Today* 1.40 *Wales Today* 1.45 *Wales Today* 1.50 *Wales Today* 1.55 *Wales Today* 2.00 *Wales Today* 2.05 *Wales Today* 2.10 *Wales Today* 2.15 *Wales Today* 2.20 *Wales Today* 2.25 *Wales Today* 2.30 *Wales Today* 2.35 *Wales Today* 2.40 *Wales Today* 2.45 *Wales Today* 2.50 *Wales Today* 2.55 *Wales Today* 3.00 *Wales Today* 3.05 *Wales Today* 3.10 *Wales Today* 3.15 *Wales Today* 3.20 *Wales Today* 3.25 *Wales Today* 3.30 *Wales Today* 3.35 *Wales Today* 3.40 *Wales Today* 3.45 *Wales Today* 3.50 *Wales Today* 3.55 *Wales Today* 4.00 *Wales Today* 4.05 *Wales Today* 4.10 *Wales Today* 4.15 *Wales Today* 4.20 *Wales Today* 4.25 *Wales Today* 4.30 *Wales Today* 4.35 *Wales Today* 4.40 *Wales Today* 4.45 *Wales 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Executive Editor  
Kenneth Fleet

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share  
1788.5 (+16.4)  
FT-SE 100  
2248.1 (+23.0)Bargains  
33613 (40534)USM (Datstream)  
209.02 (+1.21)

## THE POUND

US dollar  
1.6185 (-0.0125)W German mark  
2.9505 (-0.0130)Trade-weighted  
722 (-0.5)Allied sells  
back stake  
in Bacardi

Allied Lyons announced yesterday that its Hiram Walker Canadian drinks subsidiary has sold its 12 per cent interest in the Bacardi companies back to the Bacardi parent group for \$200 million (£122.6 million).

Sir Derrick Holden Brown, the Allied chairman, said that "the Bacardi shareholdings no longer made sense financially."

Allied's shares rose 11p after the announcement to 422p. Mr John Dunsmore of Wood Mackenzie, the broker, pointed out that in the medium term the disposal meant that within its overall drinks portfolio Allied now had "a large hole" in the white spirits sector.

## Pentland rise

Pentland Industries increased interim pretax profits by 16 per cent to £39.7 million on turnover up 29 per cent to £234 million. The dividend was increased 62 per cent to 0.135p net. *Tempus*, page 20

## Ewart ahead

Ewart New Northern, the Northern Ireland property group, is raising its final dividend to 1.2p a share, giving 1.7p (1.6p) for the year, after making pretax profits for the year ended April of £200,752 compared with £150,036 previously.

## SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

New York	2719.39 (+22.32)
Dow Jones	2719.39 (+22.32)
Nikkei Dow	25643.39 (+10.94)
Hong Kong	3447.20 (+58.04)
Amsterdam	323.4 (-2.1)
Sydney	2102.5 (+17.3)
Frankfurt	2014.4 (+12.1)
Brussels	5356.4 (+24.5)
Paris CAC	418.9 (+1.4)
Zurich	590.7 (+2.3)
London	
FT-SE 100	2248.1 (+23.0)
FT-SE 250	1144.71 (+10.34)
FT-SE 100	1281.33 (+10.04)
FT-SE 100	424.2 (+7.7)
FT-SE 100	92.28 (+0.1)
FT-SE 100	85.29 (-0.26)
Recent issues	Page 22
Closing prices	Page 23

## MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Norwest	740p (+17p)
Blue Circle	485p (+11p)
RM Douglas	220p (+18p)
Wilson Connolly	387p (+18p)
Walker Greenbank	146p (+10p)
DSC Holdings	250p (+20p)
Ease	334p (+21p)
LWT Holdings	327p (+28p)
Metal Closures	220p (+10p)
Sumrie Clothes	218p (+20p)
Lead Colloids	308p (+11p)
Laurie	330p (+14p)
Mersy Docks	223p (+20p)
Hestor	380p (+11p)
Ryan Inter.	180p (+11p)
Pearl	383p (+16p)
Miller Sanhouse	650p (+15p)

FALLS:	
Pentland	229p (-18p)
Magnet & Southern	265p (-6p)
A McAlpine	554p (-8p)
Prices are as at 4pm	

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base:	10%
3-month Interbank 10%:	10%
3-month eligible bills:	9.5%-9.7%
10-year rate	
US Prime Rate:	8.5%
Federal Funds:	6.5%
3-month Treasury Bills:	6.22-6.21%
30-year bonds:	9.5%-9.5%

## CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£/\$:	1.6185
£/DM:	2.9505
£/Sfr:	1.5020
£/FF:	162.25
£/Yen:	143.05
£/Index:	101.4
ECU:	107.0017
SDR:	50.79083

## GOLD

London:	New York:
AM \$458.50 pm \$458.00	
close \$458.00-458.50	(£282.50-283.00)
New York:	
Comex \$458.50-457.40	

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brunt (Oct):	pm \$17.75 bbl (\$17.82)
* Denotes latest trading price	

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Wall Street	20	Foreign Exch	22
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TI spending  
\$500m in US'Considerable benefits'  
in engineering takeover

By Alexandra Jackson

TI Group underlined its new-found role as a specialist engineering company yesterday by announcing the details of its proposed \$500 million (£309 million) acquisition of the world's largest manufacturer of mechanical seals, the US John Crane-Houdaille. TI will also acquire the outstanding 49 per cent of its British subsidiary Crane Packing.

Mr Christopher Lewinton, the chief executive of TI said: "This deal meets all the criteria set out in our 'mission' statement. There are considerable synergy benefits from putting the two Crane companies together. We will be able to develop an international, specialized engineering business which is the market leader in its field."

The total price of \$500 million includes \$388 million of debt. TI plans to sell six of Crane-Houdaille's peripheral US engineering companies for an estimated minimum of \$190 million, thus reducing the purchase price to \$310 million. Assuming this net purchase price, the fully-taxed exit p/e for Crane US is 15 times 1985/86 earnings.

SG Warburg, advisers to TI,

yesterday placed 19,630,139 million new ordinary TI shares at 348p with institutional and other investors on behalf of the vendors. A further 7,148,665 new ordinary shares were similarly placed for cash. The total raised before expenses is £93.2 million.

The new shares will, however, be made available to other TI shareholders at 348p by way of an offer by Warburg on the basis of two new ordinary shares for every nine shares held.

Tempus .....20

Assuming TI sells the peripheral parts of Crane, year-end gearing will fall from last year's 46 per cent to 6 per cent. Otherwise, end-1987 gearing will rise to 54 per cent.

The combined Crane businesses command world-wide sales in excess of £170 million and enjoy a 30 per cent share of the mechanical seals market. Operating profits are more than £24 million.

The US business has also been a sound performer but has been run in order to maximize cash generation

having been the subject of a leveraged buy-out in 1981. Mr Lewinton said sales and profits at Crane US should return to growth under TI's leadership after two static years.

The TI of today is virtually unrecognizable from the company which was rumoured to be about to fall into the clutches of the receiver only five years ago. It has exchanged its involvement in the commodity end of the metals industry for a handful of international, specialist, niche engineering businesses.

This year's decision to sell the profitable domestic appliances businesses was greeted with disquiet in certain quarters. It was feared that even if a sale was secured it would prove difficult to reinvest quickly enough to keep up overall growth momentum. But the prospect of yesterday's acquisition has done much to silence TI's critics.

The recovery in profits from a 1981 loss of £10.3 million to profits last year of £43.4 million is an outward sign of the changes at TI. But the underlying changes in the group's philosophy and management approach are much more dramatic.

## Anger over SE leak

By Lawrence Lever

Brokers were angry at the Stock Exchange yesterday as confidential details of stockbrokers' unsettled bargains leaked out.

The details showed that at the end of last month 10 firms had unsettled business of almost £1 billion which was more than four weeks old.

Top of the list was Phillips & Drew with £161 million worth of unsettled bargains, followed by James Capel at £141 million and Kleinwort Grieson at £137 million.

The details appear to have come from the Stock Exchange's Talsman system and also included figures for the number of unsettled bargains that stockbroking firms are carrying.

These show Alexander Leung & Cruickshank with more than 10,000 unsettled bargains. A J Bekhor with almost 8,500 and James Capel with 6,780.

The Stock Exchange, which

has set a deadline of Friday for firms to clear large and very old bargains, refused to confirm the accuracy of the figures but said they were not a good indication of the recalcitrant brokers.

"Volume and value figures of total unsettled bargains provide no valid basis for assessment of a firm's settlement position unless seen in the light of the number of clients and the business volume of each firm," a spokesman for the Stock Exchange said.

Mr Geoffrey Redman-Brown, a Phillips & Drew director, said the firm's presence at the top of the unsettled bargains by value table was an indication of its success in increasing its business.

"It is only equivalent to a few days turnover," he said, adding that P&D's turnover had doubled in recent months.

But he added: "We are not amused at all at this quite

scandalous leak of information from the Stock Exchange. This information is supposed to be confidential."

He thought figures for the number of unsettled bargains were more relevant to the settlement backlog. P&D is not in the top 10 brokers in terms of numbers of unsettled bargains.

"It takes just as much effort to settle a £100 bargain as it does to settle a £100,000 one," he pointed out.

Other brokers to feature on the table showing the number of unsettled bargains are Charles Stanley with almost 5,500, Sheppards, at 5,109, Henry J Garratt, at 4,617, Hoare Govett, 4,383, Strauss Turnbull, 3,946 and Quilter Goodison, headed by Sir Nicholas Goodison, the chairman of the Stock Exchange, with 3,927.

The Exchange will decide what to do with the brokers it finds to be primarily responsible next week.

Hunt bids  
for MFI  
business

Mr Derek Hunt, chairman of the MFI furniture group, has made an offer for the company, being sold as part of the Asda-MFI break-up.

At the same time, Harris Queensway, under pressure from the Stock Exchange, confirmed last night it was bidding for Allied Carpets Stores, also up for sale. It could, however, be challenged by a rival offer from Allied's management team.

No price was disclosed by either bidder although it is widely thought that MFI could fetch as much as £600 million and that Allied Carpets would be valued at up to £100 million. Sears, the retail group, is said to be interested in buying both companies.

Norsk Data down  
14% to £11m

By Carol Ferguson

Operating profits at Norsk Data, the Norwegian mini-computer company, fell 14 per cent to Nkr120 million (£11 million) at the half-year stage, on turnover up 16 per cent to Nkr1.2 billion.

The company said it was continuing to win market share in Norway and markets outside Norway, although its growth was slowing compared with previously.

"This is both because the rate of growth of the market for computer systems has declined and because Norsk Data is growing from a larger absolute base," the company said.

The group, through ND Comtec, its subsidiary that

supplies computerized systems to the printing industry, has a 70 per cent share of the Norwegian market for the computerization of graphic arts for mid-size newspapers. It also has a dominant position in Britain, where it is one of three leading suppliers and where it won more than a 30 per cent share of business last year in competition with Ates and Systems International.

Norsk Data gained control of Wordplex earlier this month. It has 80 per cent of the shares and, as soon as this increases to 90 per cent, a merger will be effected. Wordplex will be fully rationalized and integrated.

Tempus, page 20

Equiticorp bids £338m  
for Guinness PeatBy Richard Thomson  
Banking Correspondent

Equiticorp, the New Zealand investment group, yesterday launched its expected cash bid for Guinness Peat Group at 110p, valuing it at £338 million. The bid was triggered after Equiticorp lifted its holding in GPG overnight to 35.6 per cent.

GPG immediately rejected the bid, describing the offer price as "derisory and ridiculous." Mr Alastair Morton, the chairman, said: "I am profoundly irritated by the naive and substandard behaviour of these people. Equiticorp is like a demented puppy chewing your trouser leg when you are trying to serve the customer."

Equiticorp raised its stake above 30 per cent, at which a bid is automatically triggered, by purchasing the 5 per cent holding of ICG Chemie, a German shareholder.

The group holds the shares through two subsidiaries, Vega and Capitalcorp International, whose managing director, Mr Peter Hunt, has been at the centre of the bitter dispute between GPG and Equiticorp.

GPG's shares closed only slightly above the offer price at 111.5p.

Under the terms of the bid, Equiticorp offers to buy up to 61 per cent of GPG from its own resources. The remaining 39 per cent of the shares would be placed back in the market at 110p, underwritten by Samuel Montagu. Equiticorp's merchant bank adviser, and Morrow & Benjamin, a New Zealand stockbroker, GPG would remain a listed company under this arrangement, Equiticorp said.

The Bank of England said yesterday that it had not yet consented to the bid, but was keeping the situation under review and a decision is likely in the next few days. Under the Banking Act, the Bank has no formal powers to prevent a bid for a bank.

At the same time as announcing the bid, Equiticorp requisitioned a shareholders' meeting to vote on the controversial scheme to recruit a new management team to Guinness Mahon. GPG's merchant banking arm, Mr Patrick Keenan of Samuel Montagu said that Equiticorp's main aim in making the bid at this stage was to block the scheme.



Central figure in the bid fight: Peter Hunt of Capitalcorp

He added that one of Equiticorp's options, if the bid succeeded, would be to break up GPG, which includes banking, fund management and leasing operations. He rejected suggestions that Equiticorp did not have the resources to support its bid.

The group has gross assets of NZ\$2.2 billion (£818 million) and capital of NZ\$1.3 billion, with profits last year of NZ\$105 million. The bid is partly financed by two syndicated loans led by Samuel Montagu worth more than £50 million.

GPG announced the terms of its scheme to recruit eight senior managers to Guinness Mahon, which suffered an exodus of senior directors earlier this year. Most of the new managers are currently

employed by Enskilda Securities.

As members of Leslie Melville & Partners Ltd they will acquire an initial 5 per cent interest in Guinness Mahon Holdings for £3.25 million. LMPL has an option of a further 45 per cent of the share capital of Guinness Mahon exercisable between 1992 and 1995. GPG will, however, be able to retain control of Guinness Mahon through put and call options. GPG has agreed to pay each member of LMPL £1 million if the agreement has not been signed by October 31.

Equiticorp claims that the arrangement could cost GPG up to £50 million and has been demanding that it receive shareholders' ratification before it goes through.

ScanBank  
'set for 8p  
dividend'

By Our City Staff

Scandinavian Bank Group intends to pay a full-year dividend of at least 8p, in line with its flotation prospectus in February, despite setting aside £14.1 million in bad debt provisions.

The group has followed some US and British banks in raising its provisions for doubtful sovereign debt.

General and specific provisions amounted to 30 per cent of its total commitments to troubled debtor countries at the end of June. The debt provisions pushed the bank into a net loss of £3.48 million in the six months to end-June, compared with £7.2 million net profit previously.

The bank singled out loans of £2.3 million to Brazil and Ecuador, saying it had charged against profits all accrued and unpaid interest from them and would recognize income only when it was received.

Apart from these exceptional provisions, the bank said its businesses continued to develop steadily and it was confident of continuing growth in the second half.

## Shares continue to improve

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The rehabilitation of share prices continued yesterday, helped by rises on Wall Street. But the pound's weakness hit government stocks.

The FT-SE 100 index gained 23 points to 2,248.1 at the close, 8 per cent below its peak this year. The narrower FT 30 index rose by 17.2 points to 1,769.3.

Trading was described as very thin, with no economic statistics due until after the Bank Holiday. The July trade figures are due on September 1.

Shares rose cautiously at

first, with an undercurrent of nervousness still affecting the markets. But a strong opening on Wall Street - the Dow Jones industrial average was 28 points up at 2,725.44 in early afternoon trading - added to confidence.

The gilt market remained very depressed, however, hit by a fall in the value of sterling. Government stocks closed about 3% down.

The pound's weakness, exaggerated by the effects of a modest dollar recovery, came as a result of weak oil prices and the National Union of

Mineworkers' threat of industrial action.

Sterling's fall could indicate that some of the recent concern about strong credit growth and a deteriorating balance of payments position may spill over into the currency markets.

The sterling index fell by 0.5 points to 72.2, as the pound fell by 1.25 cents to \$1.6185. It also lost ground against the mark, dropping by 1.4 pfennigs to DM2.9502.

Stock market, page 20

## Babcock International plc

Recommended  
final offer from  
FKI ELECTRICALS PLCcloses  
1.00pm Saturday 29th August  
1987\*

Under no circumstances will the cash alternative be extended.  
The share offer will only be extended if sufficient acceptances have been received.

\*If the offer is unconditional as to acceptances at that time, it will be extended for not less than 14 days.

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## BUSINESS SUMMARY

## Evans Halshaw leaps to £2.4m at half time

Evans Halshaw Group, the motor dealer and car parts distributor, yesterday announced a sharp rise in half-year profits before tax - up from £1.3 million to £2.4 million. The increase is reflected in the interim dividend of 2p which the board is recommending compared with the 0.72p half-year payout last year. Earnings per share were 11.4p (8.9p).

Evans has been a very successful management buyout with its managers paying LCP Holdings £9 million for the company in January 1985. It made its stock market debut in June last year. Mr Geoffrey Dale, the chairman, says the company is continuing to achieve growth in all businesses.

## Hogg rights allocations

Hogg Robinson, which has been demerged from the Hogg Robinson Group, has announced the basis of allocation of new shares after the recently over-subscribed rights issue. Those who applied for up to 90 per cent of their maximum entitlement will receive it in full; those who applied for more than this will receive 90 per cent of their maximum entitlement plus 76.2 per cent of shares applied for over this amount.

## Aga profits to lift 'by 15%

Aga, Sweden's industrial gas producer, reports its forecast of a 15 to 20 per cent rise in income for the year, after financial items, is unchanged. It earlier announced interim profits to end-June of Swk540 million (£51.3 million), up 22 per cent. Revenue from newly-acquired companies was offset by the loss in ending co-operation with L'Air Liquide, whose competitor, Dufour et Igon, was bought by Aga in July.

## Merger breach backing

Sources close to the European Commission said it plans to allow a temporary merger of the vinyl production interests of Imperial Chemical Industries and the Italian state-owned corporation Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI), although it technically breaches European Economic Community competition rules.

A merged holding company, EVC, set up last year, has a 23 per cent stake in the EEC vinyl market. Normally, the Commission objects to mergers resulting in a company having a market share of more than 20 per cent. The sources said third parties have until September 15 to object to the Commission's proposal that the merger should be allowed for five years as it is designed to reduce capacity in the industry. The industry's capacity utilization rate stood last year at only 75 per cent. Commission studies have shown that, after the merger, rival companies would continue to hold 50 per cent of the Italian vinyl market and 57 per cent of Britain's.

## Douglas leaps to £4.46m

Robert M Douglas Holdings, the Birmingham-based construction group, reports sharply improved margins in the year ended March and says the climate for construction in Britain is good. Pretax profits rose from £1.78 million to £4.46 million, a turnover which eased from £146.5 million to £143.3 million. The final dividend is raised to 1.8p a share making a year's distribution of 3p (2.25p).

## £111m home loans bond

National Home Loans Corporation, the mortgage company, yesterday announced a £111 million Eurosterling bond issue backed by a pool of mortgages. The issue has a "triple A" credit rating from Standard & Poor's, the US rating agency. The bonds are unusual because £100 million is being sold in the Euromarkets as "A" notes while £11 million of "B" is being placed privately.

## HK Electric at £46m

Hong Kong Electric yesterday reported after tax profits up by 7 per cent to HK\$74.4 million (£46 million) for the six months ended June 30. Mr Simon Murray, chairman, said electricity sales were in line with forecasts. They were 8 per cent higher than in the same period last year, despite disappointing domestic demand because bad weather in May and June reduced the use of air conditioners.

Mr Murray said Hong Kong Electric had lost much of its speculative appeal when its non-electricity-generating assets were lifted off into a separately-listed company called Cavendish in June this year. He said: "It is now a straightforward company which will have a relatively high yield and it is a very safe sort of investment company with earnings that are regulated by a government scheme of control. It is particularly attractive in a period of low interest rates."

## TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings Last Dealings Last Dealings For Settlement  
Call options were taken out on 25/8/87: Hanson Trust, Boots, Lorrain, Dee Corp., TSB, London Trust, North Kent Mines, Barker & Dobson, Martin Ford, New Cavendish Estates, Amstrad, Fawcett, Bute Ties, Eastern Chiropractic, GKN, Sound Diffusion, Morrison Supermarkets, H. Samuel, Hawley, G. Group, Church, Randworth, Clyde Petroleum, Holparim, Unigate, Greenwich Res. Potts, Sparco, Newelco Europa Pot & Calf Equity & Law

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## STOCK MARKET

## Thorn EMI rights issue flops with the investors

By Michael Clark

Thorn EMI, the diversified electronics group, has become the latest casualty of the stock market's growing reluctance to fund substantial rights issues.

Yesterday, the group announced that only 381,826 shares - less than 1 per cent - of the 53.4 million shares issued last month at 695p to help finance its £371 million acquisition of Rent-A-Centre, the leading US rental company, had been taken up by shareholders.

Thorn shares have been signalling for some time that the deal was unlikely to receive much support from shareholders and have been trading below the "open offer" price virtually since the deal was announced. Last night, the price firmed 5p to 675p - still 20p below the original placing price.

A statement from Thorn said: "In view of recent market conditions this outcome is not unexpected."

But the low level of acceptances has shocked even the most sceptical critics of the rights issue. The balance of the issue will now be placed with the institutions, which are expressing reluctance at continuing to finance such mega-bids.

This has raised the question of how many other deals will be given the cold shoulder by shareholders, leaving the underwriters and fund managers to shoulder the burden.

The audacious bid by WPP for the much larger J Walter Thompson was also financed by the market after the bulk of the shares issued were left with the underwriters.

Now all eyes are on Trafalgar House, which this month announced details of a £306 million rights issue and placing to help finance the acquisition of the Pension Fund Property Unit Trust.

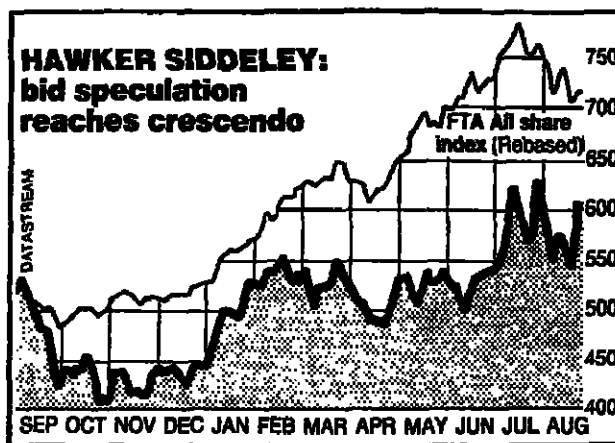
But the deal has now been scrapped after PFFUT shareholders voted to turn the trust - last valued at £223 million - into a company and seek a quote for the shares. Trafalgar closed 1p firmer at 381p.

The rest of the equity market bounced back from an early bout of jitters to extend its rally. A firmer start to trading on Wall Street, which has been nudging new heights, and a recovery in the oil price after recent worries about over-production, were two positive ingredients.

But turnover remained thin with most investors content to sit on the sidelines after the market's recent volatility. The prospect of higher interest rates has not been ruled out but appears to have faded into the background.

The FT 30-share index closed just below its best levels of the day with a rise of 16.4 at 1,768.5. The broader FT-SE 100 index erased an early 4.2 deficit to finish 23.0 up at 2,248.1.

But government securities closed with losses ranging to £4 as the pound came under



HAWKER SIDDELEY: bid speculation reaches crescendo

renewed pressure on the foreign exchange. Oil shares shrugged off earlier gloom to score some healthy gains. BP, the subject of a major review by Hoare Govett, the broker, rose 8p to 349p after going ex-dividend on Monday. Shell also sported a 5p lead at £13.58 while

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introduce a permanent job-sharing scheme in selected markets - which enjoys higher margins. Mr Berry and his management team also believe there is scope to improve on the efforts already being undertaken by Mr Mitchell Feinstein, the Manpower president who is staying on with Mr Berry.

Blue Arrow reckons it can lift margins at Manpower from 25 per cent to almost 30 per cent within the next three years.

The group has already forecast pretax profits of £20 million for the current year to October, and should be capable of producing £33 million on its own for 1988. But a full year's contribution of about £88 million from Manpower would lift the total figure to £121 million with almost doubling.

The Blue Arrow share price firmed 1p to 169p yesterday -

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## TEMPUS

## TI shaping up for the 1990s

Christopher Lewinton has barely put a foot wrong since taking over as TI's chief executive last August. Corporate activity has been frenetic with a rapid procession of acquisitions and disposals.

Admittedly the stage had been set by Ronnie Uniger, now overseeing the production from the chairman's vantage point, but Lewinton is not afraid to implement the strategy billed to take TI into the 1990s.

The disposal of Raleigh and yesterday's purchase of Crane-Houdaille are both deals which once slipped through TI's fingers but were eventually clinched by Lewinton.

Crane fits his well-known "mission statement" like a glove. Market and technological leadership, and a broad geographical spread are all present.

The existing close relationship between TI and Crane should avoid any management problems. Moreover, the importance of replacement sales provides a stable base.

Under TI's leadership, new products will be developed, marketing will be given greater emphasis and international business will increase its scope.

The decision to partly fund the purchase by issuing paper upset some commentators who felt that TI's balance sheet was already strong enough. But other acquisitions are in the pipeline.

Assuming TI sells the non-essential parts of Crane soon, 1987 earnings will not be diluted. With prospects of 1987 earnings of at least 30p to rise by 25 per cent in 1988, this year's 10p of 12.9 times falls to 10.3 next year.

This multiple may have been appropriate when TI was running its new strategy in place. But now that it is taking shape, a higher rating is appropriate.

## Pentland runs east

What does Pentland Industries have to do to please the market?

Interim profits were up 16 per cent, earnings per share rose 19 per cent, and the dividend was hiked 62 per cent. The company is sitting on a cash mountain of more than £40 million, the result of the sale of some of its shares in Reebok, and yet the shares are rated on a grudging 12.8 prospective multiple.

The doom and gloom merchants have been looking for growth in the market in quality running shoes to slow sharply. And certainly the phenomenal growth rates of the early 1980s are not being sustained. Margins have also narrowed from 18.8 per cent to 16.9 per cent.

But, while the market may be maturing in the United States and Britain, life is only just beginning in the Far East. By far the most important component of the 29 per cent jump in turnover to £234 million was a boom in good quality, high price, branded sports shoes in the Orient.

The trouble with such a lowly rating is that it becomes next to impossible for the company to make acquisitions for shares.

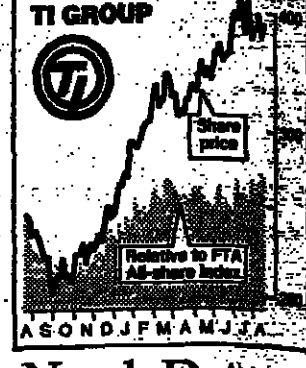
To repeat its past successes with acquisitions, it must use its cash - and fortunately there is plenty more where that came from as its present 32 per cent holding in Reebok is currently worth £300 million, or £1.79 a share.

The asset backing is impressive and the shares look good value.

## WALL STREET

New York (Reuters) - Wall Street share prices surged in early trading yesterday on positive statements by officials in Japan and the US, implying they would not like to see the dollar fall further.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 16.42 to 2,713.49 at one stage when the trans-



TI GROUP

Norsk Data's meteoric growth in the last few years has come to a sickening halt. The company had been signalling caution for some months but many analysts still had interim operating profit forecasts which were far too optimistic.

The main reason for the 14 per cent drop to Nkr120 million (£11 million) was that costs had risen ahead of sales growth which will take time to come through.

In addition, Norway, at best a static market for computers since the drop in the oil price, still accounts for more than 50 per cent of the group's sales.

The only reason pretax profits showed a 6 per cent increase was because the group has been able to make a turn on its cash balances.

Its borrowings consist partly of overseas loans in countries where interest rates are much lower than they are in Norway, and partly of some long-standing Norwegian loans at low fixed rates. Surplus cash, on the other hand, is earning high Norwegian interest rates. The net effect was interest income of Nkr40 million.

The seasonal bias of sales towards the second half and, after a year of slow growth, a computer 5000 range should bring a stronger second half. Nevertheless, the shares, at 19 times multiple, look fully valued.

## McAlpine

By the time the company's 1987 annual results are announced, it will have a half-yearly dividend of £1.55 a share.

McAlpine's 1987 annual results are expected to show a 10 per cent increase in turnover to £1.5 billion, with a 15 per cent rise in profits to £100 million. The company is expected to pay a dividend of £1.55 a share.

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# Hanson Trust likely to beat £700 million

By Michael Tate

Hanson Trust looks on target for annual profits of £700 million with nine months of its current year completed.

Lord Hanson, the chairman, yesterday unveiled a 71 per cent increase in profits for the three quarters to the end of June, at £517 million, from £302 million a year ago, and looked forward with confidence to the rest of the year.

Group sales of £4.93 billion were 62 per cent higher than at the same point in the previous year.

As befits a company which makes half its profits in the US, Hanson has adopted the American custom of reporting its results quarterly.

This is a move which Sir Gordon White, who runs Hanson's US operations, says will allow shareholders and the rest of the financial community to follow more closely the company's progress.

And while it can produce such impressive performance figures, everyone will be delighted.

The third quarter, which includes a full contribution from Kaiser Cement, acquired last January for £200 million (£123 million), and an additional one month's result from Imperial Group, acquired at the end of May 1986, saw the group achieve a 30 per cent increase in profits, from £144

million to £205 million, despite a standstill in turnover at £1.46 billion.

The tax charge for the three-month period is up from £28 million to £45 million, leaving net profits of £160 million against £116 million. After nine months, the tax liability is £123 million against £72 million, leaving net earnings of £394 million against £230 million.

Commenting on the figures, Lord Hanson said that the excellent progress reflected in the half-year figures had continued into the third quarter, with good performances from the group's businesses in Britain and the US.

Earnings per share for the

three-month period were up from 3.6p to 4.4p, making 10.8p for the nine months against 7.9p. After adjusting for future share conversions, the three-month earnings figure is 3.8p and the nine-month figure 9.8p.

Analysts believe Hanson is capable of up to £720 million for the full year, which would lift earnings per share above 13p, and suggesting a price earnings ratio of around 14 at the current stock market price of 191p.

The group is to seek shareholder approval for its \$1.6 billion acquisition of the US multinational Kidee at a shareholders' meeting in London next month.

## Phicom in US takeover mission

By Our City Staff

Mr Christopher Bland, who turned the £800,000 engineering company Sir Joseph Causton into a £21 million business then sold it to Norton Opax two years ago, is about to apply his expansion techniques to Phicom.

Yesterday, he unveiled half-year profits of £650,000 at Phicom, against a loss of £357,000 at the same stage last year. Today, he will fly to the United States to look at possible acquisitions.

He does not expect to come back with a deal, "but then I never do," he says. Whatever the outcome of this trip, it clearly will not be long before Phicom's new management is announcing its first takeover.

Mr Bland says that a number of several "highly attractive opportunities are being considered in detail."

After Robert Fleming's revamping of the company before inviting Mr Bland to take over, Phicom's activities centre on life sciences. It makes equipment for diagnosing illnesses and diseases from cells and tissue at its factory at Runcorn, Cheshire.

America is its biggest market, contributing 40 per cent of the £7.78 million half-year turnover, with Britain second, accounting for 15 per cent. Phicom is the only quoted company in its field. On full dilution its earnings are 81p a share at half-year. The interim dividend is raised by 50 per cent to 3p a share.

## Scholes price tumbles as Delta bid fails

Shares in Wylex electrical components group George H Scholes tumbled 40p to 505p yesterday as Delta Group Limited had failed in its £70 million attempt to win control of the business.

Delta's bid attracted acceptance from holders of only 29.4 per cent of Scholes' shares by yesterday's noon deadline and the offer lapsed.

The result is something of a personal triumph for Mr Reg Harrington, Scholes managing director, who will succeed Mr George McDowell as chairman on September 1. Delta had launched its bid only after it believed it had Mr McDowell's support for an offer of 550p a share.

Mr Harrington, "delighted" with the result, succeeded, however, in convincing most shareholders

## COMMENT

# Sir Ian fails to shine as investors' friend

What is Sir Ian MacGregor up to? He has, it seems, agreed to stand as a rebel director of British Gas. This would require him being elected by the votes of 3 million British Gas shareholders, a significant proportion of the general public.

Yet Sir Ian has not circulated the shareholders. It is not surprising that Sir Ian and his backers from the old steel club at Sheffield Forgemasters have neglected that course. It would cost about £700,000, the sum already knocked off shareholders' funds by the late proposal of his name just before the deadline for Thursday's annual meeting of the privatized utility, which obliged British Gas to send a separate letter to shareholders.

There are other methods. Sir Ian could have put out a public statement saying why he should join the British Gas board against the wishes of its present board. He has not done so. He could have made himself available to the press, an efficient means of communicating with so large a band of shareholders. He has not done so.

Finally, he could belatedly argue his case at the annual meeting. Yet Sheffield Forgemasters says that Sir Ian will unfortunately not be able to attend the meeting. Far from wooing shareholders, it appears that Sir Ian will treat them with contempt.

It would be charitable to suppose that Sir Ian, for the sake of old friendships, did not realize what he was letting himself in for. Yet that would be a remarkable misjudgement for one of his experience. For it does not take much imagination to work out that the move by Philip Wright of Sheffield Forgemasters opens the door to widespread abuse of the new spirit of mass share ownership.

As an industrial customer, Mr Wright has a long-running dispute with British Gas over its commercial practices. Under the Gas Act, some protection against monopoly is provided for domestic consumers and other small users by Ofgas, the watchdog. No such special protection was provided for industrial contract customers. Mr Wright has instead taken the correct course of complaining to the universal watchdog, the Office of Fair Trading — and good luck to him.

But Sheffield Forgemasters has also followed the time-honoured path of the Anti-Apartheid Movement and other protest bodies of buying a few British Gas shares in order to kick up a fuss at the annual meeting. Mr Wright will presumably stress what a good fellow the former British Steel chairman is and how much good he can do on the board in improving relations with customers — and not air his particular grievances.

Under British company law, how-

ever, the directors of companies are there to represent the interests of shareholders — as shareholders. The board is not a forum for all interested parties.

The late timing of Mr Wright's application, too late for the annual report and notice of meeting, has, however, opened up new possibilities of causing trouble. The potential has now been revealed for mischief costing shareholders dear and causing widespread misunderstanding and confusion in companies with a list of shareholders running into millions. It will no doubt be exploited by others.

## Opec leaking again

The decision by Opec's president to act swiftly to find out which of the cartel's 13 members have been cheating on their output quota and by implication to threaten some form of disciplinary action may in itself be enough to stop the fall in world oil prices.

In the past Opec quota agreements have been widely abused. But the most recent agreement appeared to stand more chance of success, especially as it gave Opec back some of the control on the world oil price which it had surrendered at the end of 1985 when it adopted a policy of defending its market share.

The present oversupply, with as much as 2 million barrels a day in excess of Opec's 16.6 million barrels a day quota flooding the market, may eventually be explained in detail. But it need not be permanent. A cold, wet week in Europe and the prospect of more industrial trouble in the British coalfields could also mop up excess output and move prices back upwards.

However, it is also likely that Iran has been stepping up its output through the two pipelines it has to the Mediterranean coast of Turkey, to pay for military equipment. Iraq is not covered by the Opec quota system — a concession suggested by Iran last summer to allow a new price agreement to be reached — but the other 12 Opec members expect it to abide by the spirit of their agreement and keep output to close to historic averages.

It now seems that pressure will be put on Iraq to come back into the fold and accept an enforceable quota. If such an agreement can be worked out at Vienna next month then Opec should again be able to nudge the world price back upwards, but an Opec with one of its major producers operating a free-for-all production policy would be in no position to set a price and certainly be in no position to continue demanding that Britain should co-operate by trimming its North Sea output to support a firmer price.

## Hongkong Bank in 18% climb

From Stephen Leather Hong Kong

The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation reported after-tax profits up almost 18 per cent to HK\$1,412 million (£113 million) for the first half.

Local analysts had at best expected a 14 per cent rise in profits. Yesterday, however, Mr William Purves, chairman, pointed to buoyant economic conditions, stock market highs, low unemployment and rising property prices.

The bank's 51 per cent-owned US subsidiary Marine Midland had a tough time because of its exposure to Third World debt and, as a result, incurred a US\$290 million (£178 million) loss in the second quarter.

The bank is treating its share of the loss as a one-off, extraordinary item to come out of its vast inner reserves and so it will have no discernible effect on the year's profit figures.

The Hongkong Bank wants complete control of Marine Midland and has launched a takeover bid for the shares it does not already own, offering US\$70 a share.

It took full control of Hongkong Bank of Australia in June by buying up the 20 per cent it did not already own and last month the New Zealand authorities gave Mr Purves and his team a full banking licence.

The bank's total assets amount to HK\$801 billion, 12 per cent higher than at the end of last year. Shareholders' funds stood at HK\$31 billion, compared with HK\$26.5 billion in December.

## Eurotunnel ready to start £750m offer this autumn

By Joe Joseph

Eurotunnel, the Anglo-French consortium building the Channel tunnel, yesterday confirmed that 50 international banks had underwritten a £5 billion loan to finance construction of the twin-rail link, paving the way for Eurotunnel's crucial £750 million public share sale in November.

The 18-year loan is conditional on the success of the equity offering, which Eurotunnel plans to allow into a busy autumn diary in the City. Investors already face demands for their funds from a string of rights issues, second calls on recent privatizations and the £7.5 billion BP share sale in October.

Mr Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's British co-chairman, said yesterday: "Representatives of the five arranging banks — NatWest, Midland, Banque Indosuez, Banque Nationale de Paris and Crédit Lyonnais — confirmed on Monday that the underwriting is now in place."

Joining the list of underwriters are Barclays, Lloyds and Standard Chartered. He added: "The marketing campaign for Equity 3 will not get going until October and will be paced to reach its climax between the BP sale and Christmas."

Mr Morton and M André Bénaud, his French counterpart, will set off on a tour of the world's leading financial centres this week to help the underwriters spread their commitments among a wider range of banks.

Mr Morton, who is fighting off predators for Guinness



Hands full: Alastair Morton announces the £5bn is funded

Peat, the merchant bank he also chairs, said: "The important message we will now be giving to the banks around the world is what a very robust project this is. Unlike many other long-term investments, the tunnel has a strong and rising cash flow."

He anticipates little difficulty selling the £750 million of equity in November. He said doubts about the project's feasibility which plagued Eurotunnel's fund-raising efforts last year were behind it.

"You also have to remember the modest size of this issue compared with the re-

cent privatizations like British Airways. Less than £300 million will be offered in this country, the equivalent in France and the rest in Japan, Europe and America."

The advice to would-be investors, according to Mr Morton, will be "Buy Eurotunnel — you will get no dividend for several years but you will see high and rising capital values and strong dividend yields in future years. It will be pitched as a good investment for people who want that kind of investment."

## McAlpine drops

By Lawrence Lever

Alfred McAlpine, the construction, minerals and homes group, yesterday announced a £1.3 million fall in half-year pretax profits but it increased its interim dividend from 4p to 4.4p.

Profits before tax for the six months to June 30 were £5.69 million against £7 million in the previous first half.

The decline was fore-shadowed by the company at the time of its full-year results in February. It said then that after the sale of its South African subsidiary its com-

panies were vulnerable to severe winter conditions which were likely in future to depress figures in the first half of its financial year when compared with the full year.

It said yesterday that the wet winter had affected many of its British companies while the eastern seaboard of the US, where all its American subsidiaries are located, also had an unusually bad winter.

However, it added that most of its companies were still predicting results in line with expectations

## 'Electronic surge'

By Robert Matthews

Britain's semiconductor industry may be emerging at last from its recession and creating an upsurge in demand for capital equipment in the process, says a survey of leading chip manufacturing facilities.

The survey, commissioned by European Semiconductor magazine and Cahners, organizers of next month's Semiconductor International Exhibition, found more than 80 per cent of the industry's senior engineers and managers expected an upsurge in capital equipment and investment

into research and development in the next three years.

The industry is increasing investment in inspection and test technology to back the automation of production lines which demand advanced quality-control techniques.

Manufacturing equipment companies hoping to benefit from the boom will, however, have to improve their image. The semiconductor manufacturing industry survey, Cahners Exhibitions, 59 London Road, Twickenham TW1 3SZ; 01 891-5051.

## Fertile field for investment

It might sound unbelievable but a British company looks like being given the Papal seal of approval for a revolutionary new contraceptive kit. The kit, which should be available in an over-the-counter form within the next two years, is a by-product of a fertility testing kit developed by Boots-Celtech — an independent diagnostics company 50 per cent owned by Boots and 50 per cent by private biotechnology company Celtech. The kit gives two or three days earlier warning of ovulation than others already available, thus dramatically increasing its effectiveness. Enthusiastic trials in Dublin have prompted an unofficial nod of approval from the Catholic church there, and if full Papal approval is eventually received, the product could be used for as many as 100 million tests a year. The fertility kit, which should be on the market before the end of 1987, is expected to be used for 10 million tests a year. Prototype kits are this week being shown to London International Group, which has bought the rights to market them in Europe and the UK — plus joint rights with Boots-Celtech elsewhere in the world.

## Girl talk

Once bitten, twice shy, and City PR firm Binns Cornwall yesterday delayed the start of its meeting for computer firm Norsk Data with the Press.

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Thriller in the City

Few stockbrokers or merchant bankers can boast that they get as warm and attentive a reception as Michael Jackson when he goes on company visits. Jackson, aged 37, is corporate development director of financial services group Guidehouse — shares in which begin dealings on the USM tomorrow — and is regularly greeted by an eager welcoming committee of female employ-

ees, whose facial expressions rapidly reveal their disappointment once they realise that he is neither black, American nor a pop singer. "It often helps me get tables in restaurants," Jackson tells me, "but once when I was trying to book a flight in the States they forced me to use my second name — Edward — because they said no one would take the booking seriously."

analysts and fund managers until after its interim results had appeared on the City's computerised information screens. Seeing at least three analysts arriving a minute or so early for the 12.15pm meeting, clutching their portable telephones, PR man Tim Anderson shyly decided to delay handing them the figures for a further 15 minutes

or so. Apparently at the disclosure of its year-end results in February, one female analyst grabbed the information sheet ahead of the official announcement — and was caught hiding in a corridor attempting to contact her market makers. "Women are the worst offenders," says Anderson. "They hide the phones in their handbags."



## Pop up

The stock market may have risen faster than at any time in its history but it still hasn't outstripped the world of pop memorabilia. According to Alison Fox, a specialist at Phillips, the auctioneers, the prices fetched by artefacts of the pop world have doubled in the past 18 months. The sale, at Phillips today, of notes scribbled on the back of an envelope by Beatle John Lennon — later used in his book *A Spaniard in the Works* — is expected to fetch as much as £15,000.

## Belting for Earl

Dr Ashraf Marwan's decision to choose Benlox as the vehicle for his British activities — by taking what will be a 15.4 per cent stake and his first executive directorship of a British company to boot — is not without its irony for individualistic merchant banker Peter Earl. Marwan, a former Egyptian cabinet minister and son-in-law of the late President Nasser, hit the headlines here last year when he built up an 11 per cent stake in Exel, then sank the bid hopes of the Demerger Corporation — Earl's brainchild — by flogging the shares to Robert Maxwell. But Earl, who is also a director of Benlox, bears no grudges. Indeed, it was he who introduced the Monaco-based property millionaire to Benlox. "The deal he did with Maxwell was very irritating for me, to say the least," Earl admits. "But it was a great deal for him — and I'm happier to have someone like that on my side than against me."

Top pharmaceutical analyst Linda Tremaine is returning to the northern shores of the Thames early next month — she is leaving stockbroker Savory Milin to become head of European pharmaceutical research at Robert Fleming Securities. Fleming Securities, the stockbroking arm of the merchant bank, has also strengthened its chemicals team with the recruitment of Andrew Benson from Postel, the Post Office pension fund.

Carol Leonard

## ADVERTISEMENT

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Being prudent you waited a month or so before having a second go. You then followed another of our penny share tips, Dollands Photographic, and invested the whole of the £2,068. Ten weeks later the shares had gone from 78p to 155p. You sold on our advice, and your original £500 had risen to £3,324.

Faithfully following our buy/sell recommendations you then saw your capital quickly multiply:

After this major success you decided not to put all your eggs in one basket. So you spent £12,897 buying Lanes at 174p, keeping back £760 to take a small plunge with WSL (another profitable prospect), buying 2000 shares at 38p. But whoopee! Seeing the share drop to 37p after a month a feeling of panic made you sell — losing you £34. If you had waited a few more weeks you would have taken a profit of £290. Then on July 10, you decided to sell Lanes at 40p, yielding you £27,519, and you resolved to go back in at the earliest opportunity.

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£35,938. Over the next 19 months your record looked like this:

Share Bought	Date Bought	Date Sold	Shares Bought	Shares Sold	Capital Gained
Green Ovens	10/11/82	01/08/83	4000	5200	£48,000
Southland Clothing	01/11/82	11/02/83	770	840	£5,310
Cometair East Africa	11/12/82	19/02/83	1670	2170	£8,370
WPP Group	22/12/82	18/03/83	2000	4700	£76,000
Long Plus Group	04/01/83	01/04/83	2700	3400	£18,600
Lee Cooper	17/01/83	17/07/83	2200	3000	£22,000
Houghton Bros	17/01/83	11/02/83	3070	3950	£26,800
Whitely	11/02/83	25/03/83	2400	3400	£24,000

\*An allowance of 44p has been made for dealing costs.

And that's how you could have — in the space of less than five years — turned £500 into an amazing £193,637! There would have been some tax to pay but with a capital gain of that size it's almost a pleasure to pay the Inland Revenue.

The story is imaginary but the investment facts are true. All the buy/sell recommendations you followed appeared on the dates shown in STOCKMARKET CONFIDENTIAL. And you could have done even better if you followed our tip to buy Acis Jewellery on 10th June. In just six weeks this share rose from 34p to 370p WHICH COULD HAVE INCREASED YOUR CAPITAL TO WELL OVER £1.5 MILLION!

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Each week the editor of SMC chairs a private meeting of the SMC Board of Advisors. Together these financial specialists pool information, validate sources, and discuss the latest City whispers. At the end of the meeting they will have chosen the three hottest tips and decided whether or not to sell shares previously recommended.

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## Business urged to curb staff changes

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Most companies do not successfully tackle the problem of labour turnover from staff resignations, the cost of which can be heavy, says an Institute of Manpower Studies (IMS) survey.

Labour turnover, in terms of replacement and retraining costs, can seriously hinder competitiveness and efficiency, the report cautions. It costs nearly 40 per cent of an annual salary to replace a secretary and up to 89 per cent to replace a computer programmer, the IMS says.

Mr Stephen Bevan, an IMS research fellow, said: "In the face of increases in labour turnover rates, most employers still mistakenly attach blame to factors outside their control, such as competitors and labour market buoyancy. This means they are turning a blind eye to damaging levels of job satisfaction and disillusionment on the part of most voluntary leavers."

Employers, he said, blamed high-paying competitors instead of their inability to retain key staff. It made sense for them to examine ways of reducing turnover, even on replacement costs alone.

Staff turnover had not been a priority of many manpower managers because they had felt it was easy to replace those leaving, especially with high

unemployment. High turnover, however, could again start to plague companies with retention problems because of the labour market's buoyancy. Dissatisfied employees were likely to consider other job opportunities, with the critical distinction that they may well look only for something where dissatisfaction was lower in relative terms.

Pay was more valued by those whose jobs gave fewer chances for personal growth, independence, self-expression and similar intrinsic rewards. Those whose skills were in high demand, however, were also likely to be affected by pay differentials, an example being among information technology jobs.

Dissatisfaction with supervisory or management style could be an important factor in somebody deciding to resign, the report said.

Companies should anticipate labour turnover, adjust the causes, take into account non-work factors such as spouses working, and be sure not to recruit the same problem, the report suggests.

● *The Management of Labour Turnover: IMS Report No 137*. £10 from Institute of Manpower Studies, Mantell Building, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9RF.

## Gibrepair 'close to closure' over strike

From Dominic Searle, Gibraltar

Just two-and-a-half years after entering the commercial world, Gibraltar's shipyard, Gibrepair, described as one of the pillars of the rock's economy, is on the verge of closure. The board yesterday warned its only shareholder, the Gibraltar government, that unless the dockers stop strike action immediately, insolvency is days away.

The first six months of this year have been the best ever for the yard which, since it ceased to be a Royal Naval dockyard in January 1985, has been plagued either by industrial action or management problems. But guaranteed Royal Fleet Auxiliary work is almost at an end and more than £30 million in British aid has been spent.

Industrial workers, claiming a wage increase approaching 40 per cent compared with the company's offer of 6 per cent, have rejected a call from their union to go back to work while negotiations continue. If they do go back to work at least one month will be gained.

Because the strike action is selective, wages are being paid but there is no turnover. Meanwhile the yard's management is in the hands of A&P Appledore, which has been given notice of default by the Gibrepair board because it failed to provide a satisfactory computing system and adequate information on accounts.

The board hopes to pressure A&P Appledore to renegotiate its 10-year management agreement so as to have more say in the running of the company.

The yard employs more than 800 workers - 450 Gibraltarians, 180 British, 100 Moroccan, 80 Spaniards and several Portuguese. The industrial workers want parity with Britain because they fear overtime will be scarce once the yard has to compete in the open market.

The Gibraltar Government this year invested £2 million to "salvage the yard" but is prevented from further investment by an EEC directive on shipyards.

A&P Appledore's management has been successful in attracting work, while the workforce has proven its ability to do a good job. But communication between them has been a failure.

## Alex Fletcher for Sedgwick board

Sedgwick: Sir Alex Fletcher joins the Scottish Regional board as a non-executive director.

Dial-A-Phone: Mr Drummond Sharp becomes non-executive chairman.

The London Metal Exchange: Mr David Norman and Mr Jon Pither join the board.

Communications in Business: Ms Rebecca Ward joins the board.

Titmus Sainer & Webb: Mr Derek Tadiello becomes a partner.

NFC Distribution Group: Mr Marya Pellew has been appointed sales and marketing director.

Cardiff Bay Development Corporation: Mr Barry Lane becomes chief executive.

Shorplan: Mr Ian Barclay is named finance director.

Pearl Assurance: Mr John Finan, Mr Bill Flack and Mr David Gordon join the board.

Ash & Lacey: Mr Colin Cooke becomes a non-executive director from September.

Low & Bonar: Mr Ian Macpherson becomes a non-executive director.

Altirex: Mr Andrew Houldsworth has been promoted to managing director.

J H Minet & Co: Mr Andrew Morrison-Corley becomes a non-executive director.



Drummond Sharp: chairman of Dial-A-Phone

comes a divisional executive director. Mr Terry Bell, Mr Stephen Bolis and Mr Andrew Cater become directors. International Marine division.

NM UK: Mr E L Baillien has been appointed chairman. Queens Moat Houses: Mr Robert Abson joins the board.

Hayers: Mr Bill Palmer becomes managing director.

SelectTV: Mr Peter Laister joins the board as director and chairman.

Yorkshire Building Society: Mr Derek Roberts has been made chief executive and a director.

## IoD poll expects increased demand

By Our Industrial Editor

Four out of five business leaders expect demand for their products to increase over the next 12 months, and believe they can sustain the growth despite worries about skill shortages.

This means growth should be manageable without overheating of the economy, a survey by the Institute of Directors reports.

Only 42 per cent of directors, however, believed they would escape general labour shortages and this appeared to reflect conditions in the service industries. Half the directors expected to be affected by skill shortages and another 3 per cent expected shortages of unskilled workers.

Half of those forecasting labour shortage problems said they would be prepared to increase wages to attract staff labour by only the rate of inflation or "a little over".

Roughly 20 per cent, however, were prepared to increase wages "substantially" to attract the staff they would need.

Skilled workers expected to be in short supply were those in engineering, technicians, computer staff, construction workers and accountants.

Only 12 per cent of the directors thought raw materials supply would create problems as production demand increased. Two-thirds felt cash flow would not hamper growth.

In spite of the optimism of directors about their own company performance, there was a slight decrease among those feeling optimistic about the economy in general. In June, 62 per cent were more optimistic about trends but this month the figure had dropped to 52 per cent.

### RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
Adson (110p)	115 +4
BAA (245p)	136
Brinsford	171
Bulfinch	158
Carroll (250p)	338 +1
Cauldon	341 +1
Cook (62p)	170 +2
Curry (100p)	186
Darlington	228
Derwent Valley	705 -5
Econ Forestry	118
Glaxo	240
Graham Motor (140p)	165
Harland Simon	178 +3
Kingspan (105p)	235 +2
Kingspan (105p)	235 +2
Kingston (100p)	116 +1
Knobs Knockers	150
Lancaster (165p)	208
Marshall Group	145
Pickwick	200
Rolls-Royce (85p)	112 +2
Russ Consumer (165p)	223
Shelton (Marine) (83p)	95
UPL	75
USDC Inv	175

### RIGHTS ISSUES

Canon SE N/P	31 +6
CapCo/Comps N/P	10 +4
Goodman N/P	145 +7
Goodman N/P	21 +1
Midland Bk N/P	158 +3
Norfolk Cap N/P	24 +4
Rockwood N/P	4 -1
Stanley AG N/P	28
Union E N/P	48
Talbot N/P	8 +2
Wellman N/P	132 +1

(Issue price in brackets).

### BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.50%
Adam & Company	10.00%
BCCI	10.00%
Consolidated Crds	10.00%
Co-operative Bank	10.00%
C. Hoare & Co	10.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	10.00%
Lloyds Bank	10.00%
Nat Westminster	10.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	10.00%
TSB	10.00%
Citibank NA	10.00%

## Hongkong Bank

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability

### 1987 Interim Report

The Directors announce that the unaudited profit for the six months ended 30 June 1987 attributable to the shareholders of the Bank was HK\$1,412 million (1986: HK\$1,197 million), an increase of 17.9 per cent. The profit was arrived at after providing for taxation and after making transfers to inner reserves.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of HK\$0.12 per share (1986: HK\$0.11 adjusted), resulting in an increase in distribution of 15.3 per cent. The dividend will be payable on 1 October 1987 to shareholders whose names are on the Register of Shareholders on 30 September 1987. It will be payable in cash, with a scrip alternative, in accordance with arrangements previously announced.

Consolidated Profit and Loss Statement for the six months ended 30 June 1987 - unaudited

6 months to 30 June 1986		6 months to 30 June 1987		
HK\$m		HK\$m	£m	US\$m
1,354	Net profit of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and its subsidiary companies	1,454	116	186
287	Share of net profits of associated companies	136	11	18
1,641		1,590	127	204
(444)	Profit attributable to minority interests in subsidiary companies	(178)	(14)	(23)
1,197	Profit attributable to the shareholders of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	1,412	113	181
(78)	Transfers to reserves by subsidiary and associated companies	(159)	(13)	(21)
(491)	Interim dividend	(566)	(45)	(72)
628		687	55	88
2,271	Balance brought forward	2,744	219	351
(573)	Transfer to Reserve Fund	-	-	-
(4)	Exchange adjustments	11	1	2
2,322	Retained profits carried forward	3,442	275	441

HK\$0.28 (adjusted)		HK\$0.32	£0.03	US\$0.04
HK\$0.11 (adjusted)	Dividend per share	HK\$0.12	£0.01	US\$0.02

Consolidated Balance Sheet details:

31 December 1986 (audited)		30 June 1987 (unaudited)		
HK\$m		HK\$m	£m	US\$m
715,284	Total Assets	801,125	64,059	102,590
26,511	Shareholders' Funds	31,058	2,483	3,977

### Chairman's Review

Economic conditions in Hong Kong during the first half were buoyant. On the Stock Market new highs were recorded and property prices continued their upward trend. Loan demand improved and both domestic exports and re-exports recorded strong growth. Unemployment remained low and in many industries there is now a shortage of workers at all levels. There was a gradual increase in the rate of inflation and this is a matter of some concern.

Overseas most of the Bank's traditional operations showed encouraging results. Earlier hopes of a modest increase in commodity prices were realised and this had a beneficial effect upon most South East Asian economies. Economic conditions in the Middle East were stable but the political situation continues to cause concern. In the United States the growth rate of the economy was less than expected; this, and the fear of protectionism, gives ground for caution. Profit growth in most Group subsidiary and associated companies is encouraging and is expected to remain so. This is particularly true of our capital markets subsidiaries; both the Wardley Group and the James Capel Group turned in strong performances.

As previously announced, the loss reported by Marine Midland Banks, Inc. subsequent to their decision to create a special reserve against LDC debt has been accounted for as an extraordinary item. As such it has been taken directly to inner reserves and will not therefore affect the published Group profit figure in 1987. Shareholders will be aware that the Bank made a proposal last month to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Marine Midland not already owned by it at a price of US\$70 per share. The formal response to that proposal by the Board of Marine Midland is awaited. Under the 1978 investment agreement between the Bank and Marine Midland any increase in the Bank's shareholding must be approved by a majority of the holders of the shares of Marine Midland and the Bank is required to vote in accordance with the majority of votes cast by the other shareholders.

The rights issue announced in March was successfully completed, raising some HK\$3.3 billion of new capital. In June the Bank acquired from the Victorian Economic Development Corporation the 20% of Hongkong Bank of Australia which it did not already own; and in July the New Zealand authorities granted the Bank a full banking licence.

If the present favourable trend in Group profits continues, your Directors expect to recommend a final dividend for 1987 of not less than HK\$0.26 per share, equivalent to an increase of 15.8 per cent in the total distribution over 1986.

### Closing of Register of Shareholders

The Register of Shareholders will be closed from 14 September until 30 September 1987 (both dates inclusive). In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfers (accompanied by the relevant share certificates) must be lodged with the Registrars not later than 4.00 pm on 11 September 1987.

### Directors' Interests

At 30 June 1987 Directors and their associates had the following beneficial interests in the shares of the Bank and in the shares of Common Stock of Marine Midland Banks, Inc.

Bank	Marine Midland	Bank	Marine Midland
C G Blaine	-	H M P Miles	45,526
D E Connolly	200,000	C W Newton	5,020
F R Frame	27,400	J R Petty	541
R R Frederick	25,600	W Purves	73,149
J M Gray	26,663	H Sohenen	434,382
D G Jaques	48,781	J J Swaine	528
S L Keswick	6,060	J C C Tang	30,000
K S Li	1,531,560	G A Thompson	-
		P J Whigham	105,465

J R Petty and G A Thompson have resigned and C G Blaine and P J Whigham have been appointed Directors since 30 June 1987.

By Order of the Board

R G Barber

Secretary

Hong Kong, 25 August 1987

Copies of this Report and of the Abbreviated Consolidated Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the six months ended 30 June 1987 will be sent to shareholders and will be available at the offices of the Bank at 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong and 99 Bishopsgate, London, EC2P 2LA.

## CRS in £2.7m property sale

J Saville Gordon Properties has exchanged contracts to acquire a portfolio of 58 lots of commercial investment properties from Co-operative Retail Services for £2.7 million. The properties are located in a wide area from North Wales to Lancashire.

● **ARTHUR LEE:** The company is expanding its plastics division with the acquisition of Plutec, of Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

● **ROBERTSON RESEARCH:** The company has agreed to acquire an interest in certain freehold mineral rights covering about 7,500 acres in Butte, Silver Bow County, Montana, for a consideration of about \$2.6 million (£1.6 million).

● **KYLE STEWART:** Kyle Stewart and Mountleigh Group have failed to reach agreement on the terms of the proposed sale of Kyle Stewart shares to Mountleigh. The talks have been brought to an end, according to the shareholders of the two companies.

● **ROTISCHILD ASSET MANAGEMENT HOLDINGS:** A re-structuring to create an international organization with more than \$7 billion of funds under administration has been announced.

● **UNITED PACKAGING:** Wholly unconditional acceptance of the offer by Tyzack Turner Group had been received in respect of 3,941,491 shares (93 per cent) by 3pm on August 21. Acceptances of the cash alternative had been received in respect of 3,744,605 shares (88.3 per cent) and the cash alternative has now closed. The offer is declared unconditional in all respects and will remain open for acceptance until further notice.

● **DEWHURST HOLDINGS:** Pre-tax profits for the half-year to July 1987 rose to £2.80 million from £2.67 million on turnover up to £35 million from £30 million. The interim payment

shires, Mr Richard Willmott remains managing director. The consideration is £800,000 cash with a possible additional payment based on profits achieved from November 1 to August 14. Plutec's pretax profits for the year ended October 31 were £80,961.

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risers to 0.24p (0.217p adjusted for scrip) and is payable on November 20. Earnings per share are up to 1.94p (1.93p adjusted for scrip).

● **ROBERTSON RESEARCH:** The company has agreed to acquire an interest in certain freehold mineral rights covering about 7,500 acres in Butte, Silver Bow County, Montana, for a consideration of about \$2.6 million (£1.6 million).

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Portfolio  
-Gold-

From your portfolio and check your cash share into movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you the overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have your cash share of the total daily price money stake. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Price	Div	Yield	Div %
1	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
2	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
3	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
4	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
5	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
6	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
7	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
8	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
9	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
10	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
11	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
12	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
13	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
14	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
15	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
16	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
17	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
18	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
19	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
20	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
21	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
22	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
23	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
24	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
25	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
26	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
27	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
28	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
29	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
30	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
31	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
32	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
33	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
34	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
35	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
36	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
37	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
38	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
39	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
40	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
41	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
42	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
43	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10
44	BT (a)	Telecom	100	10	10	10

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £3,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS			
High	Low	Open	Close

SHORTS (Under Five Years)			
High	Low	Open	Close

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS			
High	Low	Open	Close

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS			
High	Low	Open	Close

UNDATED			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDEX-LINKED			
High	Low	Open	Close

BANKS DISCOUNT HP			
High	Low	Open	Close

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES  
Advance continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end September 11. Contango day September 14. Settlement day September 21.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are recorded at 5pm. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close and may differ from changes calculated by comparing 5pm prices, published the previous day. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 22.)

No.	Company	Price	Div	Yield	Div %
1	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
2	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
3	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
4	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
5	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
6	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
7	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
8	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
9	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
10	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
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13	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
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38	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
39	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
40	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
41	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
42	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
43	BT (a)	100	10	10	10
44	BT (a)	100	10	10	10

ELECTRICALS			
High	Low	Open	Close

BREWERIES			
High	Low	Open	Close

BUILDINGS AND ROADS			
High	Low	Open	Close

FINANCE AND LAND			
High	Low	Open	Close

FOODS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CINEMAS AND TV			
High	Low	Open	Close

DRAPERY AND STORES			
High	Low	Open	Close

HOTELS AND CATERERS			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
High	Low	Open	Close

ELECTRICALS			
High	Low	Open	Close

BREWERIES			
High	Low	Open	Close

BUILDINGS AND ROADS			
High	Low	Open	Close

FINANCE AND LAND			
High	Low	Open	Close

FOODS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CINEMAS AND TV			
High	Low	Open	Close

DRAPERY AND STORES			
High	Low	Open	Close

HOTELS AND CATERERS			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS E-Z			
High	Low	Open	Close

ELECTRICALS			
High	Low	Open	Close

BREWERIES			
High	Low	Open	Close

BUILDINGS AND ROADS			
High	Low	Open	Close

FINANCE AND LAND			
High	Low	Open	Close

FOODS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CINEMAS AND TV			
High	Low	Open	Close

DRAPERY AND STORES			
High	Low	Open	Close

HOTELS AND CATERERS			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS E-Z			
High	Low	Open	Close

ELECTRICALS			
High	Low	Open	Close

BREWERIES			
High	Low	Open	Close

BUILDINGS AND ROADS			
High	Low	Open	Close

FINANCE AND LAND			
High	Low	Open	Close

FOODS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS			
High	Low	Open	Close

CINEMAS AND TV			
High	Low	Open	Close

DRAPERY AND STORES			
High	Low	Open	Close

HOTELS AND CATERERS			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS A-D			
High	Low	Open	Close

INDUSTRIALS E-Z			
High	Low	Open	Close

Portfolio  
-Gold-  
DAILY DIVIDEND  
£4,000  
Claims required for  
+48 points  
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1947		Price		Gross		Yld	
High	Low	Company	Offer	Change	on p	%	P.
7	485	370	General & Rec.	67	71		
7	485	370	General & Rec.	67	71		
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
12	65	65	St. Paul	28	30	+	1.8
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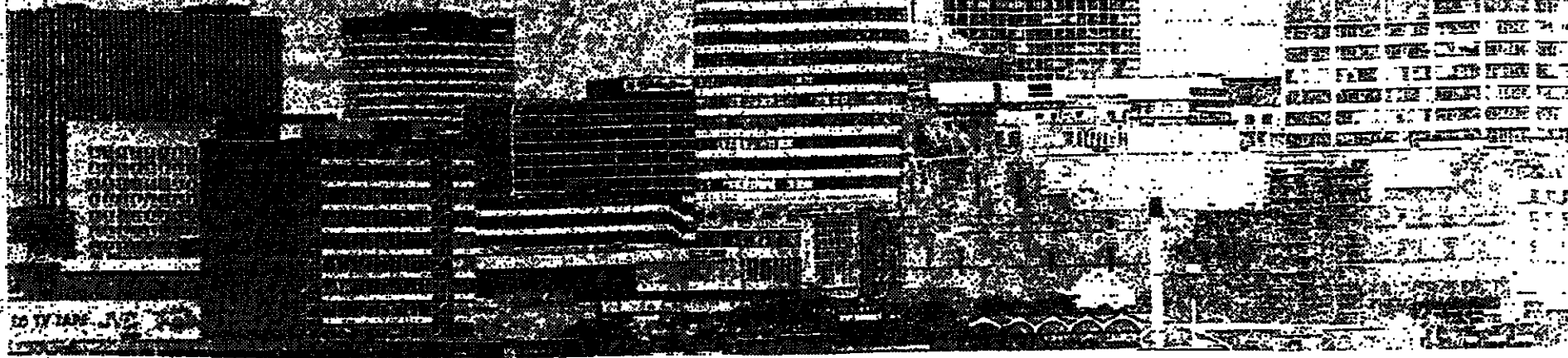


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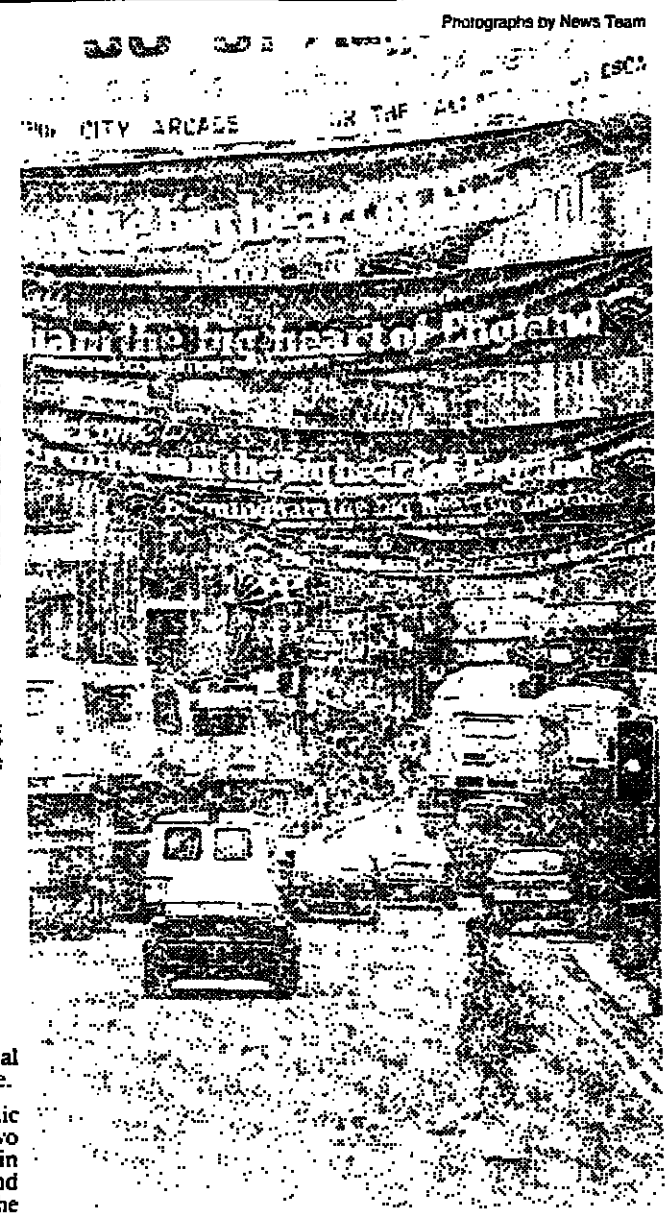


BIRMINGHAM

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT  
By Craig Seton

Tom Caulcott (inset), chief executive of Birmingham City Council; the changing skyline and right, New Street, the main shopping area



## A city's flag flies high

**B**irmingham's emergence from industrial decline may be cautious, but is at last being seen as a reality. The city leaders are painfully aware of the deprivation in inner-city areas, where pockets of high unemployment still blight the prospects of residents.

Nor can it be forgotten that two years ago riots flared in Handsworth, leaving two dead and millions of pounds of damage.

Inner-city regeneration is therefore a top priority for the city council, which is involved in a multitude of schemes with the Government to improve the housing stock of the blighted areas and give training and work to the jobless, many of whom are from the city's ethnic-minority population.

Unemployment is above the national average, but is falling as the number of vacancies increases.

It is estimated that the city lost more than 200,000 jobs in manufacturing between 1971 and 1986 and the rapid decline in the old established "metal-bashing" industries has now led to a significant growth in high-technology, science-based and service industries. While Birmingham has embarked on job-

**Birmingham is set to move into the 1990s in better shape than anyone dared imagine less than 10 years ago. More people are talking about the recession in the past tense and are now inclined to express excitement about initiatives, promotion, aggressive marketing and job-creation**

creating initiatives and pump-priming exercises, it has also staged promotional events to fly the city's flag in Britain and around the world.

Thus, the former city of a thousand trades ambitiously bid, albeit unsuccessfully, to stage the 1992 Olympic Games, and last year staged Britain's first Monaco-style motor-race on public roads. The second Super Prix takes place on a 2.5-mile circuit this Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday when 100,000 spectators are expected.

But, the city's most prized scheme is the £125 million International Convention Centre, now under construction close to the city centre. This is expected to create 2,500 jobs and lure business worth more than £50 million a year when it opens in the early 1990s.

The convention centre was made possible by an EEC grant of more than £37 million. The remainder of

the money will be raised against the assets of the city's National Exhibition Centre. Another new initiative under way is a scheme by the Labour-controlled council and private sector for an urban-development agency to develop 2,000 derelict acres in the Aston-Nechells area. The scheme for land clearance, infrastructure and factory development has received an approving nod from the Environment Secretary, Nicholas Ridley.

City officials and the five large contractors backing the agency, together with the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce, hope they can attract urban-development grants from the Government and regional-development grants from the EEC.

Tom Caulcott, the council's chief executive, said the agency would be private-sector led and added: "The Government has said it will look favourably on grant applications. In

Birmingham we are superbly inventive at getting around the rules and finding ways of getting money." (The council's capital spending programme rose from £60 million in 1981-82 to £153 million by 1983-84.)

Mr Caulcott said that the Government's decision to grant assisted-area status had opened the gateway for Birmingham to apply for EEC funds, such as those for the convention centre.

Ironically, Mr Caulcott believes that the city's Olympics bid last year played a part in renewing the faith of councillors, officials and the business community in their ability to regenerate the economy of Birmingham.

But behind the razzmatazz, Birmingham is still in the manufacturing heartland of the nation. Companies such as Austin Rover are still a vital part of the economic lifeblood of the city, along with others such as Tube Investments, GKN, Cadbury-Schweppes, Lucas and Foseco-Minsep.

Albert Bore, the Labour chairman of the economic development committee, is conscious of the need to create the skills and opportunities

that will persuade the industrial giants to invest in the city's future.

According to the economic development unit, an estimated two million square feet of floor space in council and private units and factories has been taken up in the last year for industrial use.

The creation of a new public-private sector team, called West Midlands United, to stimulate the economic regeneration of the region, has been proposed in a study by Price Waterhouse, the management consultants commissioned by the Birmingham Employers Forum.

The study says West Midlands United would implement new strategies in the business sector, infrastructure, in labour and management skills and in the creation of an improved image for the area.

Aston Science Park, now employing more than 500 people, is another success story, where fledgling computer-based companies flourish alongside the technical and academic facilities of Aston University. The University of Birmingham has set up an Institute of Research and development to encourage technological transfer with science-based companies.

## Warnings despite the optimism

Harold Musgrove, the former chairman and chief executive of Austin Rover, took over this year as president of Birmingham's Chamber of Industry and Commerce.

The chamber represents 4,500 member-businesses in the city. Mr Musgrove said a chamber survey of local businesses in the second quarter of 1987 showed that deliveries, orders, production capacity and recruitment plans indicated growing optimism about an economic recovery.

He said: "It is particularly

pleasing to see that manufacturing companies are sharing in the improved economy."

But he warned that interest rates were still too high and that some employers were having difficulties recruiting suitable staff to fill newly created positions.

As a result, the chamber has been selected as the base organization for a local employer network to bring about a closer match between the needs of employers and the output from schools and training services.

## Even J.R. would feel at home in Birmingham.



Today a stranger on the streets of Birmingham might easily imagine himself in the heart of Manhattan. Or rubbing shoulders with the oil barons in Dallas.

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A great city that boasts one of Europe's largest conference and exhibition centres, the NEC. Where imaginative design techniques were employed to make it one of the most flexible centres in the world.

A great city that has achieved the ideal marriage of planning and practicality to produce one of the world's newest international airports.

A great city that in 1990 will have at its heart one of Western Europe's largest sport and art complexes in the National Indoor Arena.

And, to confirm fully the city's enviable reputation as one of the world's great meeting places, 1991 will see the opening of the International Convention Centre, putting beyond comparison the city's unrivalled opportunities for both business and leisure.

Even today a single glance at the city's bright new business district more than mirrors its status as one of the world's great cities.

For the full story on business opportunities in Birmingham, the successful business city, call 021-235 2222.

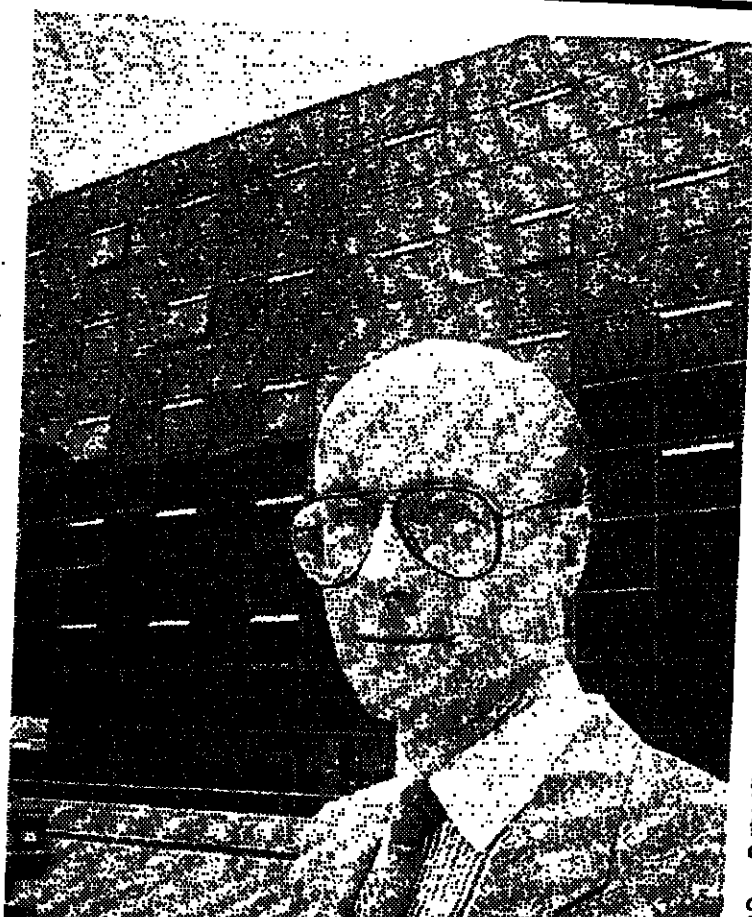
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# World-beater in the heart of England

If Birmingham's leaders have their way, the city will become Britain's leading location for conventions



John Cole of the National Exhibition Centre, outside the city centre's Copthorne Hotel: The convention-centre market is expanding

**E**mboldened by the success of the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham is building a £125 million convention centre that will create more than 2,500 new jobs and pump more than £30 million a year into the local economy when completed.

City officials have high hopes that the two centres will make Birmingham the leading location in Britain for conventions, exhibitions and business meetings.

The NEC, the largest exhibition venue in the United Kingdom, is undergoing the first phase of a 20-year plan to double its existing 105,000 square metres to enable it to compete for some of the premier European exhibitions.

The International Convention Centre (ICC), due for completion by 1991, is one of the most ambitious projects undertaken in Britain's second city - or Britain's first provincial city, as the council calls it.

The EEC's regional development fund has given a grant of £37.5 million towards the cost of the scheme. The rest will be borrowed against the assets of the

NEC which, in its 11th year, is pumping its profits back into the city coffers.

The ICC is being built within the city's Broad Street redevelopment area. It will incorporate 11 halls, including a main conference hall seating up to 1,500 and a music auditorium, seating up to 2,200, where the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, under conductor Simon Rattle, will eventually be based.

## £21 million sports centre planned

Linked to the scheme will be a 350-room, five-star Hyatt Regency Hotel, 30 storeys high and already nicknamed the "crystal tower". It will cost £30 million.

A £21 million National Indoor Sports Arena will be built alongside. The ICC will include a central pedestrian mall running

down to a canal basin where shops and restaurants will be built. It has already been booked for the 1991 session of the International Olympic Committee, a spin off from the city's bold but unsuccessful bid for the 1992 Olympic Games.

Birmingham's traditional reliance on manufacturing industry cost it dear when the recession threw tens of thousands out of work. The NEC was the city's first big venture into the service sector and after its first decade is estimated to support about 4,000 jobs and attract £80 million a year to the local economy.

In the last financial year the NEC made a profit of £3.4 million after meeting all its costs and annual interest and repayment charges on the original £40 million loan raised by the city council.

Terry Golding, the NEC's chief executive, and his team of experts have been given the responsibility of market the new ICC.

John Cole, the NEC's marketing manager, said the NEC and the ICC would complement each other, offering different facilities to cater for specialist needs in the convention and exhibition field.

He said: "For Birmingham to have these two centres will be a world-beater. It is a fabulous combination. Customers will choose which of the two centres works best for them. The market is expanding all the time and we aim to get our share of it."

Work is underway to add a further 20,000 square metres of exhibition space to the NEC with three new, linked halls, giving it a total of 12 halls.

A key to the NEC's success is its location. On the outskirts of Birmingham, it is within a stone's throw of the M6 and M42 and alongside Birmingham International Airport. Birmingham International railway station, is also part of the complex.

The NEC attracts about three million visitors a year and is busy on most days of the year. In the last six months it has captured 18 new shows. This year it expects to stage about 100 concerts, most of them in the Arena, which will also be used for the first annual meeting of British Gas tomorrow.

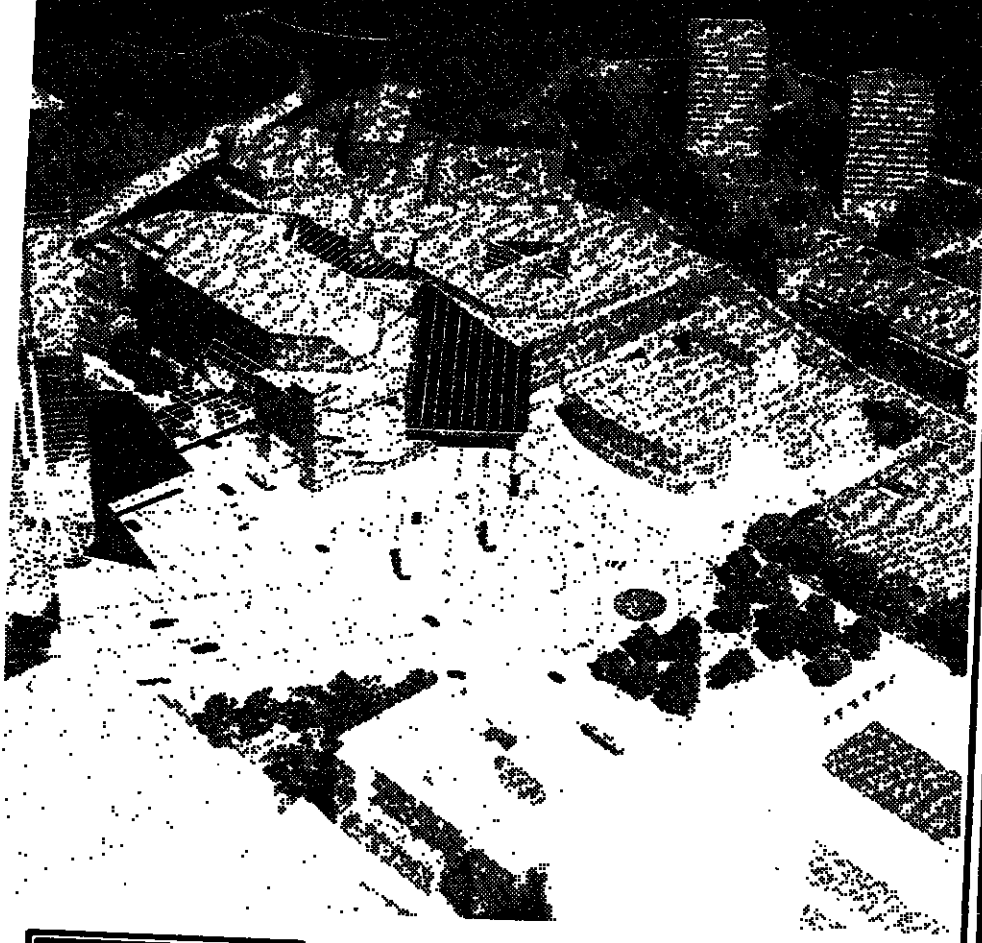
The Arena has already established a reputation as a venue for pop concerts and this year Steve Wonder, Tom Jones and Duran Duran will perform there. It was also used for the first annual meeting of British Telecom when more than 4,000 new shareholders turned up.

## New contract secures the Motor Show

A new contract has been signed that will keep the Motor Show, held at the NEC every two years in a 10-year sequence until 1998, through until 1994.

The European Ice Figure Skating Championships will be held there for the first time in 1989 and the Open Squash Championships have also been signed up.

The Douglas Group is contributing to the regeneration of Birmingham. Major projects in the Inner City include the Ladbroke Plaza in Needles Alley, the Elm Pentecostal Church Development in the Parade and the International Convention Centre, in joint venture with Turner International of New York, in Broad Street.



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Sales pitch: the Bull Ring market and shopping centre

## Shopping centre sets tills ringing

Multiple shopping chains now rank Birmingham as the second-best location in Britain after London's West End, according to a new city-centre review carried out by the city's development department.

The review was conducted as part of a new initiative to persuade businesses to invest in Birmingham as a shopping, office and business tourism centre. The review claimed that office rents in Birmingham city centre are £8.50 a square foot, compared with about £40 in London, and that the amount of office space taken in the city centre since 1984 had been exceeded only by Westminster.

Existing shopping centres are now being rapidly upgraded in the city centre as part of the new policy of promoting Birmingham. The New Street shopping centre is being refurbished and renamed the Palisades, together with a £55 million development. The Pavilions, in the High Street, and phased changes at the Bull Ring.

The city's Paradise Circus development, close to the site of the new convention centre, has produced a rehearsal and administrative base for the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Paradise Circus houses Birmingham School of Music, the Adrian Boult Concert Hall, a lecture theatre, exhibition hall and a Shakespeare Memorial Hall. A new hotel, the Copthorne, has also been built.

Birmingham's Hippodrome Theatre has been refurbished at a cost of £3.5 million in a city which also includes the Repertory Theatre and the Alexandra Theatre.

Birmingham is reckoned to have some of the best Indian and Chinese restaurants in the country, and in the Chinatown part of the city new eating houses and wine bars are opening.

It holds an annual jazz festival, which brings some of the biggest names in modern and New Orleans-style jazz to the Midlands.

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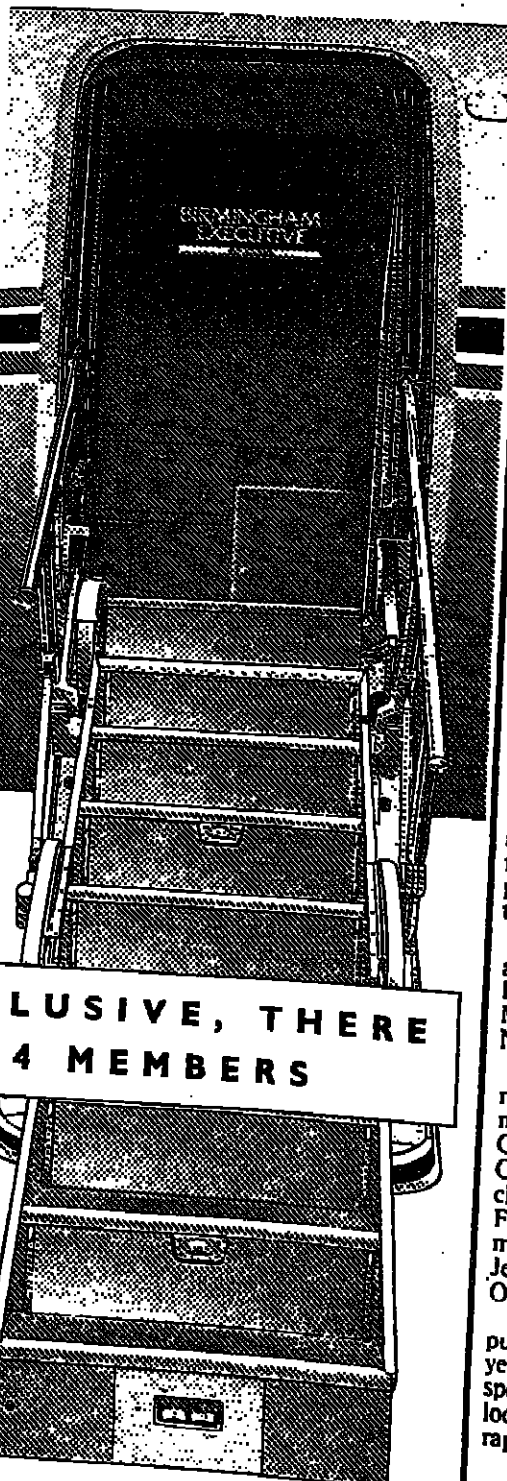
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## Airport soaring

On April 1 this year Birmingham International Airport proclaimed its new status as a public limited company by announcing a profit of £3 million for the year and a 32.5 per cent boost in passengers.

Bob Taylor, the managing director, reported that the Secretary of State for Aviation had acknowledged the airport to be the fastest-growing in Britain in 1986.

The £3 million profit, following a loss the previous year of £457,000, was distributed to seven district councils which operated the airport until the new company was set up after the demise of the West Midlands Council.

The seven councils still own the airport, but as a company it will operate more commercially and is expected to adopt a more competitive edge in the international market.

The increasing demand of Midlands business executives and holidaymakers to travel from their own regional airport pushed passenger figures to a record 2,280,000 in 1986.

The airport, improved with a new £62 million terminal in 1984, is close to the M6 and M42 and next-door to the National Exhibition Centre.

The number of scheduled routes operated from Birmingham - largely UK and Continental - has risen to 31. Operating airlines now include Lufthansa, Swissair, Air France, British Airways, Birmingham Executive Airways, Jersey European Airways and Orion.

The airport opened a new, purpose-built cargo centre last year and the number of specialist freight companies located there is increasing rapidly.

Last December, the first tenant moved into the West Midlands Freeport, which is based at the airport.

## Venture for hi-tech

Start-up

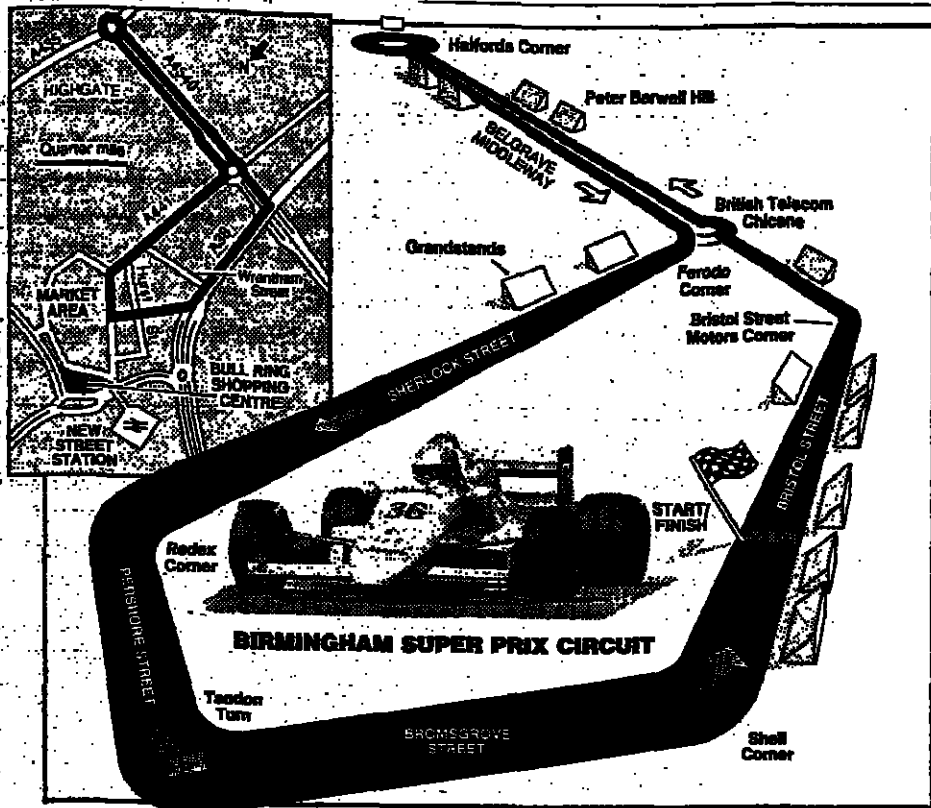
Start-up... The venture capital industry is booming, with many new companies being funded. This is a great time to start a business, especially in the hi-tech sector. Many venture capitalists are looking for innovative ideas and businesses that have the potential for high growth. If you have a good idea, now is the time to pitch it to a venture capitalist.



## FOCUS

BIRMINGHAM/3

## Hurricane or not, the Super Prix runs this weekend



## The race with a lot of faith riding on it

The tail end of Hurricane Charley was the last thing officials in Birmingham expected when last year the city ambitiously staged Britain's first Monaco-style motor race on public roads.

Undaunted by the ferocious downpour that curtailed last year's two-day summer event, the city is going ahead this August Bank Holiday weekend with the Halfords Birmingham Super Prix.

More than a few eyebrows were raised when Birmingham first unveiled its plans for high speed races around a 2½-mile circuit based on the inner ring road close to the city centre.

A special Road Race Bill had to be steered through Parliament to give the city permission to close public roads for the event. For a city wracked by high unemployment and its manufacturing

## 'Good for morale in a city that has had a battering'

base devastated by the recession, road racing was considered by some an extravagant gesture, particularly as Birmingham city council was investing £1.5 million of taxpayers' money in the event.

But one of the aims of the Super Prix is to put Birmingham on the national and international map, to give the city a high profile and bring it to the attention of those who may eventually invest in the regeneration of the area. John Charlton, the chairman of the city council's road-race sub-committee, said: "We think it is good for morale in a city which has had one hell of a battering over the last few years. It is another example of the city demonstrating that it will go out of its way to do different things which will help turn the tide of the local economy."

"As such, it is one small part of an overall programme to promote Birmingham."

City officials think that live TV broadcasts of the Super Prix and press reports give the city hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of publicity. The main sponsor of the Super Prix is Halfords, the automotive-accessories retailer. The company has signed a deal worth £750,000 renewing last year's sponsorship for another two years.

Despite last year's deluge, Halfords, a Birmingham-based company, was far from disappointed with the results of its

first big venture into sponsorship, which it saw as a successful corporate promotion and marketing exercise.

The city council lost about £400,000 on last year's event, but it was never intended to make money quickly and plans at least to break even over five years. Income from sponsorship, ticket sales and franchises is up 31 per cent on last year's figure.

The main event of the two-day Super Prix festival of racing will be a 50-lap Formula 3000 race — a step down from Formula 1 Grand Prix racing. Drivers from 12 countries will compete at speeds of up to 180 mph.

Nigel Mansell, Britain's world championship contender, will be one of the commentators during two hours of live coverage on independent television.

Last year an estimated 70,000 people attended the race, reckoned to be the largest ever for such an event, before the lively remnants of Hurricane Charley blasted in from the Atlantic and brought it to an abrupt halt.

This year the city council commissioned an opinion poll among people living and working within the circuit. Eighty-three per cent of residents and 81 per cent of businesses surveyed thought the Super Prix should continue in future years.

Mr Charlton said that the 1986 event had been a tremendous success, despite the appalling weather.

Mr Charlton believes that it proved the success of the organization of the event and established the reputation of the circuit, which is surrounded by eight miles of crash

## Eventually the city could stage the British Grand Prix

barriers and wire meshing to protect spectators. He is also convinced that if the Super Prix proves itself over several years, Birmingham could eventually bid to stage the British Grand Prix.

He said: "It will be up to the powers that be. But I believe that sooner or later the motor-sport business really ought to test the market and try the Grand Prix in Birmingham."

"It would bring motor sport to a much larger group of people than is the case at present. We have the capability and potential to stage a premier world event."

## Science parks keep the inventive spirit alive

With funds of £5 million, expansion and innovation are the key words

Symbols of the fading industrial era on which Birmingham's reputation for innovation has been built are ever present on the inner-city site of Aston Science Park, where high-technology companies are being nurtured in the new industrial revolution of the computer age.

Phase one of the park, containing "incubator" units for the fledgling companies, is located in an old, refurbished non-ferrous rod mill. Phase three, the latest expansion on the 22-acre site, incorporates a section of an old canal, a reminder that Birmingham was at the centre of the canal network established during the industrial revolution.

But there is little time for romantic nostalgia over a bygone industrial age at Aston, which Birmingham says is Britain's only inner-city science park. Expansion and innovation are the name of the game and have been since the science park was created in 1983 from the partnership of Birmingham City Council, Lloyds Bank and the University of Aston.

It has a venture-capital fund of £5 million managed by Birmingham Technology Ltd, the management company formed to run the park, where tenants can draw on the research and expertise of the neighbouring university.

Forty-six computer-based companies are established at Aston, either in the smaller incubator units where a

full business-support service is offered to budding companies or in the larger units created later for established companies which are expected to display greater self-reliance. About 550 people are directly employed at Aston.

Aston Technology, one company formed at the park four years ago to build computers and software systems, now has 70 staff and a £4 million annual turnover. The company is now being acquired by the American firm General Automation, which will remain on site.

Shirley Hamilton, the managing

director of Tech-Ni-Plant, formed to promote ion implantation to improve the wear of metal tools, was named Midlands Business Woman of the Year in 1986.

Derek Harris, the finance director, said: "We are just putting a package together to raise £20 million of institutional money to complete the development of the 22-acre park. The significant thing is that people are now beating a path to our door. We are virtually full and are pressing ahead with the building programme to keep up with the demand."

In selecting new tenants for the



Raising millions: Derek Harris, finance director

park, the management team is keen that applicants be engaged in businesses to which the university can contribute. Mr Harris said: "It is a totally technologically-based science park and there is a lot of interaction between the companies themselves. Some science parks will take only existing companies. We start where someone walks through the door with a bright idea."

Sir Frederick Crawford, vice-chancellor of the university, is credited with the original concept of a science park linked closely to the university. He returned to the university after 21 years in the US, teaching and researching electrical engineering at university in Stanford, where the world's first science park was created.

Harry Nicholls, chief executive of the science park, was formerly dean of Aston's faculty of management. He has been at Stanford as a visiting professor.

Phase four of the science park is scheduled to be a private sector amenity development, to include a small hotel, residential apartments and a restaurant and wine bar.

Executives at Aston Science Park are currently celebrating their latest 'coup'. Between September 1 and 4 the science park will host the Second International Technical Innovation and Entrepreneurship Symposium, a leading forum for policy-makers in the field of high-technology economic development.



Progressive science parks and traditional industry may give a misleading impression of Birmingham — the city also has a fine collection of Victorian buildings such as the town hall in Chamberlain Square

## WE MUST GO ON MEETING LIKE THIS.

What makes the Big Heart of England one of the world's great meeting places? The answers would fill a book. In fact they do, the Birmingham Conference and Travel Manual 1986/87. But before you send for it let's have a quick look at what gives the area a flying start over anywhere else. There's the National Exhibition Centre. In a week of the Motor Show nearly a million people passed through its doors. And by the turn of the decade there'll be an equally large and prestigious International Convention Centre and hotel complex right in the middle of Birmingham.

Or you can choose from over 120 specialist conference venues. Each with its own distinctive character. From a stately home to a spacious indoor arena. From a quiet country hotel to an internationally famous sports venue. All the facilities, entertainment and recreation you could possibly need are right here and of course no where in Britain is easier to get to.

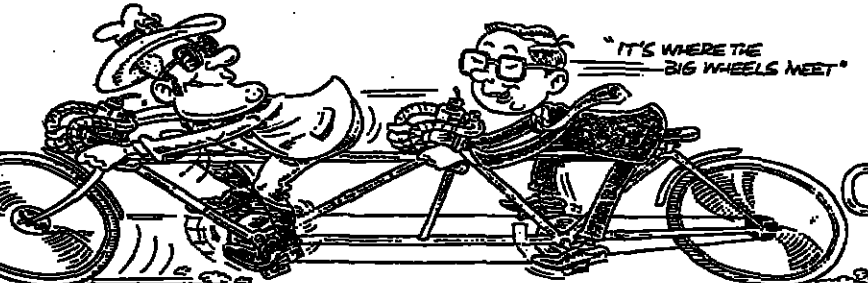
HALFORDS BIRMINGHAM SUPER PRIX AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY.

Right through the year the stage is set for the biggest names in show business, Tina Turner, Paul Simon, Stevie Wonder, Johnny Mathis, Cliff Richard, Tom Jones, Lionel Richie, Elkie Brooks. The choice of nightclubs is as varied as the international cuisine in the City's bistros, wine bars and restaurants.

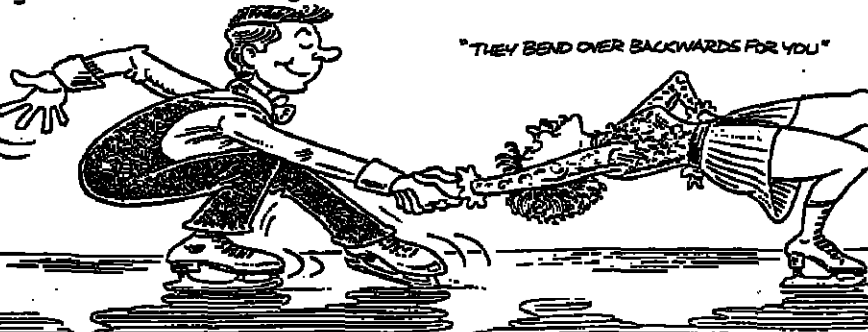
We are regularly visited by major acts and cultural bodies from around the world. This year we play host to the London Festival Ballet and the Russian Georgian State Dancers.



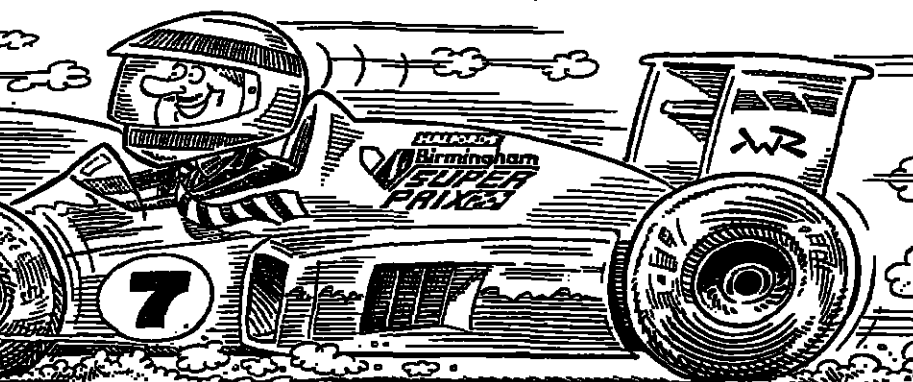
The Big Heart of England is where the world meets. International buyers, exhibitors, delegates find the facilities and infrastructure conducive to successful business. This year the International Police Association will be here. So will Round Table and the Law Society. Plus international sports events, England USA Athletics, the Birmingham Super Prix, England v Pakistan Test matches and Cycling's Milk Race.



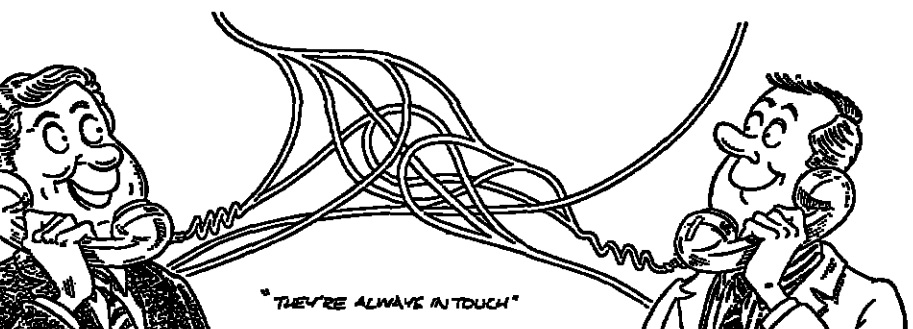
The Birmingham Convention and Visitor Bureau is on hand to provide information and help you with arrangements. We can book theatres, restaurants, concerts, sports and other major events. We'll help you choose the right conference venue, put you in touch with specialist conference and exhibition organisers, interpreters and guides. For a smooth running event we'll bend over backwards for you.



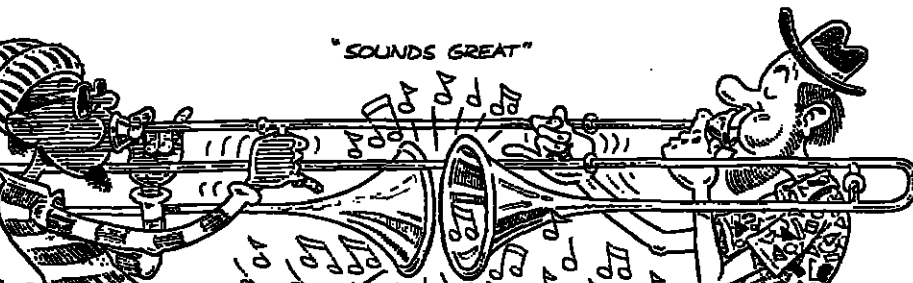
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## MEDIA &amp; MARKETING

## The day of the panther

The man who woke British breakfast television from its slumbers explains to Andrew Lycett his recipe for success at TV-am

**B**ruce Gyngell, TV-am's 58-year-old Australian managing director, bounds from his chair and rummages on his desk for a tape. He returns with a Walkman and asks me to put on some headphones. To a background of electronic music and crashing waves, I hear a disembodied American voice intoning. "You're wonderful. The people you work with have a high regard for you."

Gyngell (the first g is hard, the second soft) explains that the tape, from southern California, is part of an accelerated learning programme with which he is experimenting. It is designed to help him concentrate.

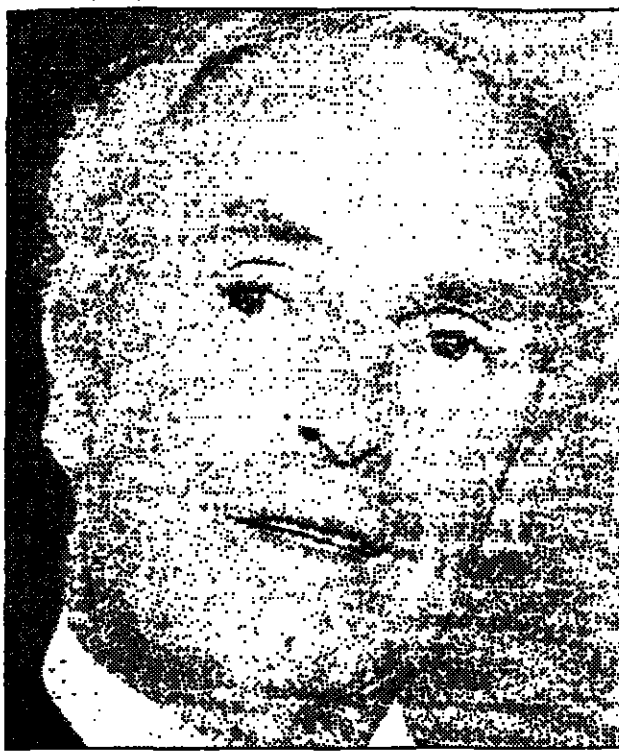
We had been discussing new areas which might be covered by TV-am — the butt of recent criticism by the IBA for the triviality of its news output. Next January, to mark Australia's bicentenary, the station's *Good Morning Britain* will be presented for a week from Sydney. Gyngell says he would really like to go to Siberia. He is fascinated by Russia's scientific advances, particularly its new learning techniques. "It's about remov-

ing the limiting beliefs we have which prevent us from reaching our potential," he enthuses.

Gyngell does not suffer from British reserve about what excites him. A follower of the American consciousness-raising cult *Insight*, he has been criticised for foisting his ideas on to both his employees and an unsuspecting public. Around his open-plan office he is known as the Pink Panther — a reference partly to his period as Sir Lew Grade's assistant in the 1970s (when he was responsible for films like *The Return of the Pink Panther*); rather more to his penchant for the colour pink, which his staff are encouraged to wear.

Tall, angular and dapper in his monogrammed shirt with its thick pink and grey stripes, Gyngell takes the inevitable sneers in good humour.

"Brightness is what I'm all about. Pink suits me better than any other colour. Every time I wear it people say I look well. It's just vanity. Seriously, I'm not trying to stop anyone wearing black — except in the morning. A black soignée dress is not the outfit or colour to start the day with. It gives



Bruce Gyngell: breakfast television is still his first love

'Brightness is what I'm about. Pink suits me'

the wrong signals. It is not welcoming." Gyngell can afford to indulge his eccentricities because he knows his results speak. Since arriving at TV-am in February 1984 as the representative of Australian media baron Kerry Packer and taking over as managing director three months later, he has turned the company into a profitable success which regularly attracts up to three times as many viewers as *Breakfast Time* on the BBC.

A one-minute commercial on the station, which at one time could be snapped up for £200, now costs £20,000.

Gyngell started in breakfast television in the United States in 1955. He also started up Australia's first multi-cultural channel, but breakfast TV remains his real love. He defines its essence as "eternal summer. It has got to be bright, cheerful and a great way to start the day. It needs to be informative and this is a word the Brits have difficulty with sound-led." That means you must be able to take your eyes off the screen while making the coffee and still know what is going on.

The right presenters are vital. Under Gyngell, programme makers must be aware their audience feels "vulnerable" at this hour. Presenters have to be "comfortable people, with that friendly, neighbourly feel about them."

Gyngell has authorized expenditure of £15 million to research Britons' breakfast time habits. TV-am programming now reflects the fact that its viewers change during the three and a half hours it is on the air. Early bulletins are short and sharp, to attract a predominantly male audience. "As the show moves on," reveals Gyngell, "it becomes softer. By 8.30 it is mainly female. Between 8.30 and 8.40 it changes pace. The women have got the family off and like to relax."

About 80 per cent of TV-am's budget goes on news, and Gyngell is keen to improve that coverage. He was clearly stung by the IBA mid-term report which, he says, "did not handle us well". Last week TV-am's senior editors began work in a new high-tech newsroom. "There was always trouble about communication," Gyngell says. "Now everyone can answer each other's phones."

He says TV-am is entering "a time of renewed growth and energy". With 100 journalists on its staff, recruitment of 12 more is now under way.

By this time next year Gyngell expects to have addressed another of the IBA's complaints — that TV-am does not have enough regional coverage — by opening three more studios (probably in Newcastle, Peterborough and Aberdeen) to add to the five already outside London.

The IBA also criticized the paucity of TV-am's religious coverage. Gyngell has hired the former editor of the Catholic paper *The Universe* as the station's religious editor, and instructed her to have a say on all programme-making.

Gyngell does not make too many claims for his medium. "What television does better than anything else is to inform you about things. If we can create awareness in people and have some fun about it — a smile every half hour — then I am happy."

## BYLINES

## Challenge to Mail

The *Daily Mail*, which is accustomed to preaching lessons in morality to broadcasters, has been challenged to prove its own probity by the BBC. Last Saturday the paper ran a full-page feature by the BBC director of programmes, Michael Grade, on the perils of trying to sell programme ideas to the American TV networks.

An outraged BBC alleges that the *Mail* had "lifted" the article out of this year's Edinburgh Television Festival magazine without, the BBC claims, asking the permission of the corporation, the festival organizers, or Grade.

The BBC has demanded that the *Mail* pay £500 into the Hungerford massacre fund to make amends for its action. "We're waiting to see how generous they are," said chief press officer, Keith Samuel.

Gordon Cowan, managing editor of the *Mail*, yesterday denied that the article had been used without consent. Asked about the £500, he replied: "We never discuss outside payments."

## New campaigner

A showdown is looming in the advertising and media trade press from next month when Haymarket Magazines' top title, *Campaign*, finally takes on its young rival, Patey Doyle's *Media Week*.

*Media Week* was launched in 1985 under the editorship of former *Campaign* media editor Tim Brooks, and has built up a large and loyal readership among the media buying departments of advertising agencies.

This year, after a long, expensive struggle, it has started trading profitably and is eating significantly into *Campaign*'s market share.

So from September 11, *Campaign* is introducing a new eight-page weekly media supplement, with its own staff of three reporters. It is also to increase its City coverage, give more space to new advertising campaigns, redesign its features pages and introduce more colour. "It's the biggest change to *Campaign* in its history," promises editor, Christine Barker.

## Crime time

*Police Five*, London Weekend Television's "crimewatch" show which has been running for 25 years, will be axed when a unique pan-media attempt to combat crime in the capital is launched. LWT, Thames, the *London Evening Standard* and LBC radio are to unite in a programme where the public will be encouraged to phone in leads on highlighted "crimes of the day". Rewards will be offered from a fund to which Michael

Ascroft, boss of the Hawley Group, has already contributed £500,000.

## The up and up

ITV advertising revenue in July was 14.2 per cent up on the same month last year to £98.36 million and earlier modest forecasts are being adjusted upwards for the early autumn and the start of BP share flotation advertising. At the same time the commercial radio sector is reporting its best period of growth — revenue of £23.9 million for the second quarter of this year was a 26 per cent increase on 1986.

## Briefly...

The Royal College Of Nursing, Britain's largest non-TUC affiliated trade union, is launching a new weekly magazine for nurses, *Nursing Standard*, on September 9 aiming at a 100,000 circulation within five years... EMI magazines is planning a new up-market financial magazine to rival *Mail* Newspapers' lucrative *Euromoney*... the IBA expects to announce new guidelines this autumn which will allow charities to advertise on television... Robert Maxwell, who has reorganized his magazine division Headway Publications, is pitching to publish *Signature*, the magazine for Diner's Club card holders... magazine publisher, Northern and Shell, which includes *Penthouse*, *Video World*, *Fitness* and *International Musician* in its roster, is to seek a full stock market listing next Spring...

## A stroke of ill-fortune for Bild Zeitung

Peter Bartels, deputy editor of *Bild Zeitung*, the largest circulation daily newspaper in Europe, was sitting anxiously by his telephone at lunchtime yesterday. Today is the last day of his paper's series on the life of Rudolf Hess, Hitler's former deputy. The series has been running since the day after Hess's death on August 17. But still Bartels does not have a lead story to publish on the man today.

Bartels can scarcely conceal his annoyance, because *Bild Zeitung*, part of the Hamburg-based Springer media empire, has Hess's son, Wolf-

The sudden collapse of Rudolf Hess's son on Sunday threatens to leave Europe's biggest daily with a large hole in today's planned front page

Rudiger, under contract. Wolf-Rudiger has been helping to add authenticity to the Hess life. But he suffered a stroke on Sunday. Bartels says he hopes that Wolf-Rudiger's wife will ring shortly to tell him where her father-in-law's grave is. Then *Bild Zeitung* can use that picture on its front page. "We were guaranteed a picture of the funeral,

but there has been no picture so far," complains Bartels.

*Bild Zeitung* inherited the contract with Hess's son from *Ja*, a mid-market weekly launched by the Springer group in February. But *Ja* did not take off. It was closed down earlier this summer, having lost £10 million and failed to reach even half its intended 800,000 circulation.

*Bild Zeitung* has a tradition of buying up personalities, such as Boris Becker and Steffi Graf. No figures are mentioned, but Bartels says Becker is expected to give the paper exclusive interviews on special occasions and come to Hamburg for exhibition matches when required. He adds that Wolf-Rudiger Hess approached the Springer group with

his story because he wanted help in marketing it.

Critics say *Bild Zeitung* has presented Hess as a hero. Bartels denies this: "We didn't want to make a big show about Rudolf Hess. Germans are interested in the story, but it's not as big as, say, the death of Kennedy."

The paper will be back to its regular subject matter next week — with a series on the mothers of prominent Germans, including, inevitably, Steffi Graf.

Michael Duncan

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Join this fast growing but large established fashion company with a healthy U.K. and export market as secretary/PA to the joint M.D. You are 24+ with good shorthand and admin skills and a commercial background. Clothing discounts.  
City 377 8600  
West End 439 7001

## SECRETARIES PLUS

## ADVERTISING £10,000

You are 21+ with shorthand, Wang, French and good organisational skills for the M.D. + Accounts Manager of a Fleet Street ad agency.  
City 377 8600  
West End 439 7001

## SECRETARIES PLUS

## LOVE RECRUITING? £15,000++

You have a positive attitude and a minimum of 1 years experience in recruiting WP/secretarial staff either within the industry or as a Personnel Officer. As a consultant with our specialist WP division, your hard work and expertise determine your job satisfaction and financial rewards.  
Call Lyn Cecil on 439 7001

## SECRETARIES PLUS

## PERMANENT SUMMER!

**SNR. SECRETARY PA £12,000**  
A senior position where smart presentation and excellent secretarial skills will mix well with a traditional atmosphere. Ref: 5518/41/15.

**SNR. LEGAL SEC £11,375**  
Plenty of opportunity within a City law firm for a Secretary who like variety and has proven skills. Judge for yourself by applying to Ref: 562C/41/19.

**DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY £11,000**  
Use your all round skills to develop this position into more than a secretarial role. Working in Finance and Information Services, you'll find the benefits enticing. Ref: 559C/41/08.

**SECRETARY £11,000**  
Working for two Partners, good Audio and WP is essential. Your day will cover the whole range of Secretarial duties and then relax in their City sports and social club. Ref: 562C/41/21.

**SHORTHAND SECRETARY £11,000**  
This Financial Services company will reward Administration and Secretarial skills. If you are intelligent and can remain cool under pressure. Excellent benefits from a top company. Ref: 5518/42/11.

**TEMP! TEMP! TEMP!**  
WE HAVE IMMEDIATE WORK AVAILABLE FOR EXPERIENCED SECRETARIES, WP OPERATORS, AUDIO & COPY TYPISTS - IF YOUR SKILLS AND PERSONALITY FIT THE PHILOSOPHY OF 'ONLY THE BEST IS GOOD ENOUGH'.

185 Victoria St SW1 (nr. Victoria BR) Tel: 828 3845

19/23 Oxford St W1 (nr. Tottenham Ct Rd Stn) Tel: 437 9030

131-133 Cannon St EC4 (nr. Cannon St BR) Tel: 626 8315

22 Womwood St EC2 (nr. Liverpool St BR) Tel: 638 3848

## Challoners

## Assistant to MD

£11,000  
Experience in advertising (or similar)? This small, well-established upmarket agency seek your organising flair and adept people skills to run the office.

Flexible, professional and totally committed, you will handle recruitment needs for the company in addition to supervising the secretarial team and organising all office admin.

Good track record and confident skills (180/50) essential for this career move. Age to 28 yrs. Please call 01-400 1232.

Recruitment Consultants  
in the Communications Industry

## SECRETARIES Westminster

Municipal Mutual Insurance have vacancies for experienced, bright and enthusiastic secretaries with word processing, audio and/or shorthand skills as follows:

- Two audio secretaries for the Managers of our Development and Technical Departments. Your duties will be varied and interesting. You will operate an IBM displaywriter and previous word processor experience is essential.
- Secretary to the Group Internal Auditor, your work will involve figure typing, reports and correspondence. This position would suit a second jobber with shorthand skills who is interested in word processing.

We offer an excellent salary and benefits package, including Season Ticket Loan, flexitime and private medical insurance. If you would like to be considered for any of the above posts and are aged between 23 and 40, write giving full career details, including current salary to:

Mrs. Shirley Edom,  
Assistant Manager - Personnel,  
Municipal Mutual Insurance Ltd,  
25-27 Old Queen Street,  
Westminster,  
SW1H 9HN.

We are an equal opportunity employer.

01-584 9033  
TM RECRUITMENT  
01-584 3222  
TM RECRUITMENT  
LONDON W1

## INVESTMENT BANK c.£20,000 Package

Our client, a well-known international investment bank, working mainly in Europe and America, is looking for a confidential, energetic PA/Secretary to work for one of the directors. You will be working on a one-to-one basis dealing with confidential reports, organising in-house meetings and liaising with the other directors of the company in England and abroad. You will occasionally be asked to work on your own projects. An excellent presentation is required as well as a good working background. Salary £12-£14,000 plus banking perks. Age c.24. Speeds 100/60.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS £10-£13,000**  
A small and expanding public relations agency is looking for two secretaries. One to work at an account handling level and the other to work for one of the directors. For both jobs you must be quick, well presented and have lots of common sense. A great deal of contact with the press and clients. Lovely offices with a pressurised but fun atmosphere. Speed 90/60. Age 20-26.

Please call us for an interview until 6.00pm.  
LONDON BRUSSELS

OPPENHEIMERS  
HERBERT OPPENHEIMER NATHAN & VANDYK

## PROFESSIONAL SECRETARIES

A leading firm of City Solicitors covering all aspects of Law are seeking high calibre professional secretaries.

The roles are demanding in every respect. Excellent typing (70+ wpm). Audio and Word Processing skills are required, as is the ability to work on one's own initiative and be able to perform all administrative duties pertaining to the relative post. Secretaries without legal experience will be considered if all other criteria are met. Commitment and enthusiasm are essential. Age 25 plus.

In return for the above, we offer a competitive salary and benefits commensurate with a city law firm.

Please telephone Margaret Mannell on 628 9611 if you are interested in pursuing a career in the legal world.

## SPEAK TO THE WORLD!

Receptionist/Telephonist/Typist (19-27) package to £12,000

Two International Banks in the City need experienced Telephonists with good typing skills to handle their switchboard/reception areas and provide secretarial back-up when required. The working environments are lovely and the benefit packages offer Mortgage Subsidy and many other extras to someone with pleasant speech and excellent presentation. WP experience an advantage.

**PA/Executive Secretary (25-37) package to £15,000**  
This American financial institution needs a true PA to organise conferences and seminars and provide a full administrative secretarial service for this Senior Manager. Elegant surroundings and excellent benefits await the applicant with 'A' level English, top secretarial skills (90+/50+) as well as good speech and presentation.

CALL 01-588 7287

Or address CV's to Ms. K. O'Rourke, Secretarial Division

Ref Court House, 11 Eldonfield St, London EC2

JOSEPH ROWE

## PROFESSIONAL SECRETARY c.£14,500

Demanding senior Director of this prestigious international management consultancy requires a top-level secretary to run his office. You will be dealing at a most senior level, liaising on the telephone, organising an annual event, monitoring his diary and providing him with a comprehensive secretarial support including the production of documents, reports and presentations. Excellent skills (110/60/WP/Audio), an outgoing and positive attitude together with initiative, a confident manner and senior level experience are essential. Age 40+. Superb offices SW1. Please call 434 4512.

## Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Elite Selection

Personnel - £11,200

As a world-renowned professional firm, our client is a major investment in talent. They now offer an excellent career opportunity for someone keen to develop in the Personnel field. As PA to the Graduate Recruiting Manager you will enjoy a full introduction into high level recruiting, along with encouragement and support in obtaining IPM qualifications. Proven admin ability, excellent communication skills and lots of commitment are essential. Good audio typing. Age 22-27. Please call 01-495 5787.

GORDON-YATES

Recruitment Consultants

THE BRITISH PROPERTY FEDERATION  
P.A. to Deputy Director General

The British Property Federation represents the property industry as a whole. The Deputy Director General needs a high calibre PA with accurate shorthand and typing (speeds 120/60).

Other duties include:-  
- Organising lunches, an annual luncheon and meetings.  
- Arranging the Deputy's travel plans and keeping a firm grip on his diary!

The candidate chosen will often work without detailed supervision; will need to get on well with other members of a small staff and assist in the general running of the office. It will be an advantage to have word processing experience. Candidates under 23 are unlikely to have sufficient experience for the post.

The Federation's offices are situated near Victoria Station with good bus, train and tube services.

Please ring Jane Hegarty at the British Property Federation on 01-828 0111.

Salary: circa £10,000 p.a. (No agencies).

## Temping?

Here's a Promise...

Looking for the best in temping? Here's a straightforward promise: - high standards: no compromise. Every assignment is tailored to your individual taste: the client, the contact, the degree of challenge and responsibility, and the reward package. Want to work one-to-one with the best in London? Call Ann Berlyn on 01-493 0713.

MERRYWEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTION

MERRYWEATHER

## MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT

For busy Fulham Estate Agents. Client contact & responsibility given. Car driver essential as is good shorthand. £10,000, aged 23+.  
SECRETARY  
needed as word backup.  
Wordstar exp pref. £8,000. 20+.  
Reply to Ruth Greig  
307 New Kings Road,  
London SW16 4LH  
01-736 5502

LYHAM  
PROPERTY SERVICES

## A TOP OPPORTUNITY to £14,000

This is a famous name, International Company as Personal Assistant to their Chairman. You'll enjoy extensive senior level liaison and will be in total charge of his office. Co-ordinate dinners, lunches and complex travel arrangements. Benefits include: free lunch, bonus and own vehicle. Stable behind level background and 100-90 skills needed.

Please telephone: 01-240 3511.  
- Elizabeth Hunt -  
Recruitment Consultants  
2-3 Bedford Street London WC2

CAROLINE KING  
CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR  
£10,500

Do you want a NON SECRETARIAL role, enjoy organising and need a new challenge? With this well known firm you will learn how to run conferences, motivate staff and run an efficient office. Endless scope and career. Typ 50 wpm.  
please telephone: 01-499 8070  
87 New Bond Street London W1.  
CAROLINE KING SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

## ENTREPRENEUR c.£12,000

An extremely successful young entrepreneur is looking for an assistant to run his small team his business revolves around the setting up of new ventures, from the preliminary marketing and investigation stages, to raising money for the establishment of a company in this country. In order to be fully involved and take on the responsibilities he would like to delegate, you will need to be both numerate and computer literate, as well as confident enough to liaise with international clients at Chairman level. Ideally, a graduate, it would be useful to have a European language and generalist skills of 50/50 are essential.  
Age 23-30  
WEST END OFFICE  
629 9686  
ANGELA MORTIMER

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT £12,000

Work for M.D. of USA subsidiary dealing with Turkey & Saudi. He's country-hopping all the time, so you'll often deputise. St. James suite. Your own Diarist. SJH not visit at all. Nice L's, B's, P's, etc.  
Call KIM GERLACH  
01 434 0683

Office Angels  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Mary Overton

YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN ONE OF LONDON'S TOP SEC TEAMS

MARY OVERTON RECRUITMENT LIMITED  
LONDON W1V 0PS  
01-734 7282

Super job, super salary to match. Major British international group, HQ'd in Mayfair and one of the country's top employers. As Secretary to a Senior Director you need to be well spoken, numerate, have good shorthand and typing skills and be good at administration and getting on with others. Experience on the Co Sec side would help tho' is not essential. Age 25-35. Fill the bill, and you'll never look back. So ring NOW.

## FRENCH!

WINNER: PA to Director, 'A' level French with Eng SH & an interest in wines are needed for this stimulating and varied role. End grad cert considered. Pref min 6 mths exp. £9,000. PERSONNEL: Career post for top sec with excel French and excel 1 yrs exp. To £12,000 + exc. pkg. PUBLISHING: Fluent French, some German. Sec to work-shops Director of int div of world renowned pub house. Absorbing and rewarding post, requiring flexibility. BLACK GOLD: Int plc in W1 require bilingual French sec to Chief Exec. SH an asset not req. 3 yrs exp min. From £11,000 + exc pkg. CV's TO PH: 01-499 8070. The Language Specialists. MERRYWEATHER EMP AGY. 7 Henrietta Place, London W1M 6AE

## PA TO SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL/BUSINESSMAN BASED IN WEST SWEDEN

Candidate with wide secretarial experience, speaking German and possibly French required for a varied position where enthusiasm and commitment are essential. The successful applicant will be aged 30-45, free to travel and able to handle entertainment functions. We offer excellent salary, accommodation and access to car. Please reply with CV and photo to Box K64.

## WE ARE GROWING! JOIN US

Due to expansion we need another person to join our busy team.  
ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT  
Wide brief from general sales/office admin, preparation of books, to customer liaison and WP. WP essential, will cross train. Good telephone manner, accurate typing, flexible manner essential. Excellent career opportunity. Salary neg. according to exp and experience. Age 25+. Send CV to Sam Theakore, AWIS Ltd, 19 Store Street, London, WC1E 7BT.

## BORN ORGANISER £10,500 + £500 BONUS + STL

This position has lots of variety and responsibility and a high level of administration. Candidates aged 30's to 40's must be able to handle this as well as provide secretarial service to a boss who delegates a lot. 60 wpm typing and WP.  
Call Sylvia on 638 1102 (Rec Cons)  
Rochie Horner Associates  
2nd Floor, 44 London Wall, London EC2M 5TU  
Telephone 01-438 1102.

## OFFICE ORGANISER to £13,000

A leading search and selection company require a director level secretary to take on responsibility for the administrative side of the company. You need to be responsible and methodical and happy to organise two juniors. This job is wide open for development. Skills 100/60.  
Please telephone 01-240 3531  
Everyline appointments arranged.  
- Elizabeth Hunt -  
Recruitment Consultants  
18 Grosvenor Street London W1

## NORWEGIAN SPEAKING £11,500 + ALL BANKING BENEFITS

Prestigious Merchant Bank urgently seeks a Senior Admin Secretary with fluent Norwegian/English. No shorthand but full use of language. Foxley Recruitment 01 580 5522

01-481 4481



01-481 4481

## LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

01-481 4481

## International Investment Bank Secretarial Vacancies

A prestigious International Bank is seeking four intelligent, high quality secretaries to work for its Senior Executives.

Candidates, aged 22-30, should be personable, articulate, resourceful and able to work accurately under prolonged pressure. They should have high qualities of confidentiality, diplomacy and loyalty, and the ability to communicate easily with people at all levels.

An attractive salary and benefits package, including mortgage subsidy, LV's and non-contributory pension scheme will be provided.

Applications in writing, enclosing a C.V., which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be addressed to:

Box No (TT) 120,  
The McCann Consultancy  
Hazlitt House, 4 Bouverie Street,  
London EC4Y 8AB

**£13,000 pa in Chelsea**  
30+, you thrive in a small working environment - a delightful Chelsea house - and the an interesting and varied job. You have 5000, a public school education and a superb car. You could take on board an office but your true pleasure is to work with clients, colleagues and generally organise the off-shore management consultancy of International Co. Fine car, etc.

01-589 8807  
**JOYCE GUINNESS**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
21 St James's Place, London SW1A 1DP

**ADVERTISING YOUNG PA**  
£12,500 +  
You are early 20's and extremely confident and energetic. You are efficient and a team player. You are a natural role model for others. Working with the top 100 of the UK's Advertising Agencies you will need to be confident, articulate and have a good knowledge of the industry. You can deal with clients, colleagues and generally organise the off-shore management consultancy of International Co. Fine car, etc.

01-589 8807  
**JOYCE GUINNESS**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
21 St James's Place, London SW1A 1DP

**ADMINISTRATOR 20+**  
£12,000  
In this small but growing company you will play a leading role working with Directors. Accurate typing, shorthand and knowledge of the industry are essential. You will be responsible for staff welfare, some staff supervision and general administration. You will also be responsible for the company's financial and legal affairs. You are a graduate with some experience in the industry.

01-589 8807  
**JOYCE GUINNESS**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
21 St James's Place, London SW1A 1DP

**Secretary with French**  
£12,000  
You are a graduate with good shorthand typing and some experience in the industry. You are a graduate with some experience in the industry. You are a graduate with some experience in the industry.

01-589 8807  
**JOYCE GUINNESS**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
21 St James's Place, London SW1A 1DP

**PA/Admin/Assistant**  
£12,000  
You are a graduate with good shorthand typing and some experience in the industry. You are a graduate with some experience in the industry. You are a graduate with some experience in the industry.

01-589 8807  
**JOYCE GUINNESS**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
21 St James's Place, London SW1A 1DP

## TELEVISION

**Diplomat £11,500**  
Who answers all the queries that come through about television programmes? You could, if you have an excellent telephone manner, can absorb information quickly and enjoy composing your own correspondence. Preferably a graduate with secretarial experience you will need to enjoy dealing with people in a hectic situation at the hub of this large television company.

Age: 25-35  
Skills: 80/60.

**R.S.V.P. c£9,500**  
This new position within television marketing will involve a bright, sociable secretary in client entertainment and personnel. Arranging parties at the major sporting events you must be highly efficient and organised and have a friendly outgoing personality.

Age: 20/30  
Skills: 90/60

**RECRUITMENT COMPANY**  
5 GARRICK STREET  
COVENT GARDEN  
TEL: 01-831 1220

## DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY

A highly respected international company is seeking a first class PA to work for the Head of one of their fastest growing departments, one that has important implications for the rest of the company. The Director, an acknowledged authority in this field, leads a highly successful team and needs a PA who is adept at working with loyalty and professionalism in a developing fast-moving environment and who will welcome delegation and responsibility. Much of the material you will be dealing with - both client and internal matters - will be confidential and controversial; your discretion will be as valuable as your ability to give him positive input and advice.

The ideal candidate will be aged 25-40, educated to 'A' level standard, preferably with a senior level background in a client orientated environment. A strong personality and sense of humour are essential. Speeds 100/60 + WP.  
Carrington House, 130 Regent Street,  
LONDON W1R 5FE. Tel: 01-437 1564

**Career Opportunity**  
circa  
**£15,000**

**MacBlain Nash**  
**WEST END**  
Recruitment Consultants

**PASSPORT TO SUCCESS**  
**£750 ph**

## Travel first class as one of our temps!

When you join our temporary team you will be one of the best temps in London. Our reputation, established over 10 years, ensures a warm and appreciative welcome from our clients, while our Temporary Controllers take great care to give you the right assignment. Clients have great expectations of you and so do we. In return we pay excellent hourly rates, a 'no-strings' holiday bonus, and offer free WP cross training. Ring us now and join the team if you have speeds of 100/60, WP skills and two years' Director level experience in London, or a comparable capital city.

Travel with us - you know you'll be going somewhere worthwhile. **434 4612.**

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Senior Secretary/PA to Managing Director

c. £13,000

Glaxo Pharmaceuticals is one of the world's most successful healthcare companies. At our modern head office in Greenford we have a vacancy for a highly capable Secretary/PA to play a key role assisting our Managing Director.

The attractive salary reflects the importance and seniority of this position. Your responsibilities will include managing and planning a wide variety of secretarial and administrative activities in support of the Managing Director. You will need sound judgement, flexibility and initiative in order to meet changing priorities and business needs. Excellent interpersonal skills are

needed in dealing with all levels of staff within and outside the Company.

We're seeking someone of graduate calibre with a warm manner and the maturity to accept the confidentiality of this position. A high standard of shorthand and typing skills is essential, ideally supported by formal qualifications. Experience of word processing would be an advantage.

Don't miss out on this excellent opportunity. Please send your c.v. to Mrs Carolyn Greene, Personnel Manager, Glaxo Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 891-995 Greenford Road, Greenford, Middlesex UB6 0HE or telephone for an application form on 01-422 3434 ext. 2602.

**Glaxo**  
Pharmaceuticals Ltd.

## Two of the best...

c. £10,000

...secretaries are required at Hewlett-Packard's prestigious Eastern Area HQ in Uxbridge.

Not only will you have excellent typing, WP and shorthand skills, perfected during your 3-5 years' experience, but also the initiative, self-confidence and enthusiasm to cope with a demanding and varied workload.

You will be joining a world-leading manufacturer of computers and electronic instrumentation with a reputation for outstanding commitment to technical excellence and customer satisfaction.

Personnel Secretary Working as part of a team, you will provide full secretarial support to the Area Personnel Manager. You will also have responsibility for administration within the department using personnel systems.

Sales Secretary Providing full secretarial support to a Sales District Manager and his team of Sales Engineers. You will enjoy working in a dynamic sales environment, often to deadlines and with the latest computer technology.

The salary, geared to experience, is supported by benefits including two-yearly profit sharing, 25 days' holiday, share-purchase scheme, non-contributory pension and discounted BUPA.

Please send full career details to Karen Smith, Hewlett-Packard Limited, Harrow House, 1 George Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 3YH. Alternatively, call Karen on 0895 72020 for an application form. Hewlett-Packard is an equal opportunity employer.



**HEWLETT PACKARD**

We can work it out

## SECRETARY

Intelligent and versatile secretary required for busy newspaper office. Ideal position for ambitious 2nd jobber.

Must have accurate keyboard skills, shorthand and pleasant telephone manner. Age range 20-24 preferred.

Salary £9,500.

Please reply in writing enclosing full c.v. to

Bernard Clifford,

Personnel Manager, TODAY,

Allen House, 70 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London SW1V 2RP.

## P.A. TO EUROPEAN ADVERTISING MANAGER

We are looking for a highly qualified Personal Assistant for our European Manager who is in charge of co-ordinating all direct marketing activities for our largest worldwide client. In addition to these responsibilities, you would be responsible for certain personnel activities of the London Office consisting of 160 employees.

You must have excellent secretarial and P.A. skills, plus wordprocessing experience. You will be well organised, responsible, mature and self-motivated.

The position is both demanding and rewarding. A good salary is offered according to experience and ability, together with other benefits.

If you are looking for an excellent opportunity in a fast-moving company and industry, then write with your C.V., including details of your present salary to Helen Madden, Ogilvy & Mather Direct, Knightway House, 20 Soho Square, London, W1V 6AD.

Ogilvy & Mather Direct

## perrier

**PA/SECRETARY TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Required by dynamic and friendly marketing company in Belgium. Good secretarial and administrative skills, together with an enthusiastic and flexible personality are essential. An attractive salary for the right candidate.

Please write, with full CV to:  
Miss Sara Sharp  
Perrier (UK) Limited  
6 Lygon Place  
LONDON  
SW1W 0JR

## Christopher Keats

PR ELEGANCE

The selling is total glamour, the people young and lively. The clients range from fashion and the famous to TV and sport. Accessing the UK or one of the most respected PR Co's in town, the position is demanding, fulfilling and never boring. You are a professional, poised and capable PA, used to handling and charming top clients, seeking total involvement and the respect and rewards in return.

Call London on 01-379 0244

## INSEAD

EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
FONTAINEBLEAU (FRANCE)  
(60 km South of Paris) seeks

## EXPERIENCED SECRETARIES

for the preparation & coordination of continuing education programmes for top level managers.

Varied work - requiring a person capable of initiative & with a sense of responsibility. Communication skills & availability necessary.

Please send CV, photo to  
Service du Personnel - INSEAD  
Bd de Constance - 77305 FONTAINEBLEAU  
Cedex FRANCE

## Front-Line Exposure £10,000

This is a vibrant young company, backed by one of the UK's largest institutions. Soon to move into stunning new offices in St James's, they now seek someone dynamic, enthusiastic and stylish to join their small team. Assisting one of their key young executives you will enjoy a varied role - handling new office developments in the City, liaising with clients, organising meetings, lunches etc. A superb job with real career prospects - if you've got what it takes! Good typing and aged 20+? Call now on 01-493 0713

MERRY WEATHER ADVERTISING & SELECTA  
**MERRYWEATHER**

## SALES EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REQUIRED

£13,000 + performance share

Dynamic Property Company, about to undertake two new exciting developments, seeks an able Executive Secretary to help head Sales Administration Department.

Ability to work at top level negotiations, initiative, lots of energy and desire to become fully involved in the companies future.

Tremendous scope and potential for the right person. Company moving to new offices in Amersham end 1987.

Send CV to: Hilary Jenkins, 31 The Avenue, Watford, Herts WD1 3NU.

## FASHION IN W11 to £12,000

A highly respected international fashion accessory house requires an enthusiastic secretary to work in their small, busy and friendly office/showroom. Working for the Managing Director and Commercial Director your varied responsibilities include handling enquiries from customers, telex, telephone and reception, dealing with travel arrangements as well as providing full secretarial support. Skills of 90/50 together with a flexible, helpful and good humoured approach essential. Age 23-30. Please call 434 4512.

**Crone Corkill**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Secretaries - step into the media spotlight

Approach the media specialists and you could land a top secretarial job in film, TV, PR, design, publishing or advertising. We have parts on offer for highly skilled and motivated applicants and career advice for the less committed. In this business, it's who you know that counts: get to know us on 01-499 6566.

**The GROSVENOR Bureau**

**M.D. LOSES RIGHT HAND ...**  
I'm leaving Graham and Mike and need to find them a super new secretary to cushion the blow. I'm flexible, not a prima donna and capable of a hard days work. I mainly use audio and am a wizz on the Wordstar. I get a fair days pay for a fair days work... if you sound like me phone Pamela now on 726-4841.

## SECRETARIES

We are International Publishing Company based in EC2 and we require two experienced Secretaries (one bilingual in the German language) to work for our busy Sales Managers.

Applicants must have good secretarial skills; knowledge of word processors; organisational skills and the ability to co-ordinate a variety of tasks.

A COMPETITIVE SALARY WILL BE OFFERED FOR BOTH POSITIONS

Please apply in writing with C.V. to:  
The Office Manager,  
Carners Publishing Limited,  
27 Paul Street,  
London EC2A 4JU

## Media Mania!!

£8,000 plus

Looking for a terrific career start? You know you really CAN have it all... high pay, excellent first-job experience, total involvement AND the kind of excitement that only the communications world can offer. Currently we need several streetwise self-starters for hot new jobs in... Video and Music Promotion... Public Relations... Advertising. Good typing essential. Shorthand useful. Call now 01-400 1232.

**THE WORK SHOP**  
Recruitment Consultants  
to the Communications Industry

## Typing To Trading

c. £11,500

Exciting opportunity to use your initiative and organisational skills when you join this thriving financial services company based in SW3. Flexibility is the key to success as your duties will encompass everything from monitoring the stock market to running the office. Numeracy, good secretarial skills (90/60/WP) and some knowledge of the financial world are all essential. If you are in your mid 20's and have lots to offer a fun but professional team, please call us today on

437 6032

**HOBSTONES**  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

Technical Consultancy Firm requires lively secretary to help run the soon to be refurbished offices in Holborn. WP/shorthand skills essential. Experience in audio/copy preferred.

Salary up to £10,500 depending on age and experience.

Please write to:  
International Technical Advisers Limited,  
9 Kingsway,  
London, WC2B 6GF  
enclosing CV.  
(No agencies)

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT - W2

£12,000

Entrepreneurial Management Consultant advising the Publisher of a national magazine needs a special PA who must be a graduate and have over 100/50 speed. She must be a graduate and have over 100/50 speed. She must be a graduate and have over 100/50 speed.

Apply: **Middleton Jeffers**  
RECRUITMENT LIMITED

## PA/Office Admin

Country Mansions

This is an interesting and stimulating opening in a young, sociable and highly successful environment. Mayfair-based, the company specialises in exclusive property projects. As PA/Office Administrator you will look after in-house lunches; cocktail parties; caterers; Christmas ham pers etc in addition to secretarial recruitment and personnel admin. Benefits include bonuses, weekend house parties etc. Good typing essential. Age 23+. Salary to £11,000. Please telephone 01-493 578

**GORDON-YATES**  
Recruitment Consultants

## INTERIOR DESIGN TO £12,000

This old established family-run firm are looking for a Sec/PA to help run a very busy office near Vauxhall. The successful applicant will enjoy working in an often pressurised environment, dealing with VIP clients and contractors and assisting with admin/budgets. Age 30+. Good fast audio typing.

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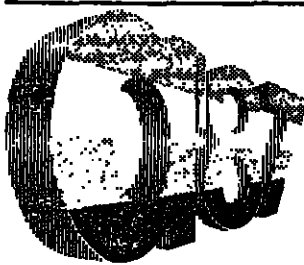
ATHLETICS: INJURIES PUT EXTRA PRESSURE ON A REPUTATION FOR PRODUCING THE GOODS WHEN IT MATTERS

# British talent is stretched to limit

From Pat Butcher  
Athletics Correspondent  
Rome

Athletics glory is measured in gold, and there is every reason to believe that the British reserves will be increased by the visit to Rome. But it should not worry the Bank of England. For the world championships, which begin on Saturday and end Sunday week, are unlikely to yield the lode which the British mined in Stuttgart last year.

The eight gold medals in the European championship have led not only the British public into an unaccustomed mood of sporting expectancy. But spectators and commentators throughout Europe also believe the British come good when it counts. It is a handy situation to be in, especially if their competitors think the same way. It is worth a few



Tomorrow: The Times form guide to the women's events in the world championships

metres start in most events. But first, you have to bring the potential champions to the starting line.

And the fragility of the human frame when subjected to the strains of the training load required to win medals nowadays is such that several of the Stuttgart successes qualify more for iodine and band-aids rather than gold and ribbons.

The catalogue of cripples in the last few months has extended from Sebastian Coe, Steve Ovett, Daley Thompson and Allan Wells, winners since 1978, through Steve Cram to Fatima Whitbread and Roger Black, two of the more recent successes in world track and field.

Coe has the galling experience of being one of the greatest middle distance runners in history, yet has lost both opportunities to compete in these world championships. He missed the inaugural event in Helsinki in 1983, due to a virus. Now, he has been unable to rid himself of an aggravated Achilles' tendon injury. That he now feels compelled to attempt a third successive Olympic 1,500 metres gold, when no one has won two, is a prospect which one would gladly hike to Alaska to see. But he will not be competing here.

Miss Whitbread's loss to Tessa Sanderson last Saturday Britain's excellence in athletics is patchy. The world championships, which begin in Rome on Saturday, should stress our talent in men's track events but, except for men's and women's javelin throwing and the incomparable Daley Thompson in the decathlon, they are likely to underline our weakness elsewhere.

The accompanying figures, which show the average standard of the top 10 Britons compared to the rest of the world, prove that in certain events, like men's shot-putting, Britain has deteriorated since 1974.

Here is how Frank Dick explains the reasons for dramatic improvements in some events and regression in others, beginning with the breakthrough in men's sprinting.

"The guy who opened the door for us was undoubtedly Allan Wells," Dick says. "Suddenly sprinters and their coaches believed they could be successful in a territory where they had been singularly unsuccessful since the days of Peter Radford in the 1960s."

This minor revolution has not, however, spread to women's sprinting. "I honestly cannot think of one reason why women's sprinting has stood still," he admitted. "We had the likes of Sonia Lannaman and Kathy Cook but we seem to have hit a ceiling. I am certain, though, that this is only temporary."

The men's 400m is another boom event which, according to Dick, must be credited to top British coaches. "When David Jenkins hit the scene there were few opportunities for other men just behind him to move up the international rankings. Now we have three

Scaling the hurdles: Jon Ridgeon has everything to gain in Rome as he moves up from being an outstanding junior to tackling the best in the world

And there are still doubts about Black, Wells and Miss Whitbread. Coping with the adulation of the last two years, from being a distant European junior winner to a narrow European senior winner cannot have been easy, even for a level-headed 21-year-old like Black. And he admits that his problems are as much mental as physical.

But Black is immensely strong. The succession of heats will be to his advantage physically, and the challenge of the championship should be more than enough to motivate him. Wells, on the other hand may yet withdraw from the 100m, as he has from the 200m. He has already pushed longevity to its limits in sprinting. And it seems that he has insufficient time to recuperate from injuries to do himself justice.

Miss Whitbread's loss to Tessa Sanderson last Saturday

will give more confidence to her great rival, Petra Felke, than any complaint about an injured shoulder, however true it may be.

Ovett seems to be over his obstacle course. But there will be some trepidation for him in temperatures similar to Los Angeles, where he collapsed at the Olympic Games in 1984.

Cram's revival after a comparatively poor start to the season has echoes of his situation going into Helsinki. His win in the 1,500m, though barely a month after croaking himself by stepping on a soft drinks can was the sort of performance usually attributed to a trip to Lourdes. Yet again, he looks to have gone from potential disaster to almost certain victory inside a few weeks.

The fact that Thompson is coming to Rome at all, after a long and well concealed groin injury, supposes that he feels

able to do the same as he has done in every major competition in the last seven years; that is, win.

But most intriguing of all is the possibility of British success for other types of reserves, that is to say, those athletes who have taken lower places in previous major championships, yet have pretensions to victory or medals this time. On the front line, there is Liz Lynch, Tom McKean and Mike Hill, with Jon Ridgeon, Colin Jackson, Derek Redmond and Steve Cram not far behind.

Miss Lynch's win in the Commonwealth Games 10,000m last year owed more to attitudes to women in post-colonial countries than to the talent, which flowered last winter, to add to her evident tenacity. For she was a well beaten seventh in the European championship.

But such has Miss Lynch

improved in the past 12 months, only losing the world cross-country championships in the last 200m, that even had Stuttgart winner, Ingrid Kristiansen, not been injured, the Scot would be fancied by many to win.

The same would apply to her compatriot, McKean, if his European victory, Coe, were running. Cram can readily testify to that. "After I beat Tom in the Commonwealth Games, he didn't say what a great run I'd had, he said he'd run badly. And that's a great attitude to have." Cram bore the brunt of that attitude three weeks later, when McKean beat him in Stuttgart, and almost beat Coe too, adding to his reputation by telling a television commentator that he thought he had the race won, "until this little so-and-so [Coe] came by."

Hill, eighth in Stuttgart, is currently 'hot', in competitive

terminology. He set the United Kingdom record of 85.24m during the best series with the new javelin. He has beaten all the leading contenders, some several times, except for Viktor Vasyukov, of the Soviet Union.

Ridgeon and Jackson's inexorable climb from being by far the best juniors in the world has not halted. And with their elders stagnating, or simply falling too frequently, they cannot be ruled out of medal chances. Redmond too, his fourth place in Stuttgart, following an injury, was largely overlooked. And he is improving rapidly with every race. The same goes for Cram in the 1,500m. His advantage over people with faster times is his capacity to win races.

All of which points to a British gold, silver and bronze lining the clouds over the Stadio Olimpico.

## FOOTBALL

# Why Kendall can hardly afford a lost weekend

By Dennis Shaw

Howard Kendall's two-year campaign to transform Athletic Bilbao into a Spanish version of the Everton champions he left behind will be worth every peseta of the contract, reputedly around £300,000, he is said to have signed if he achieves success.

Kendall completed a five-match preparation programme with a 4-0 defeat at Derby on Monday night and said with enforced good cheer as he left: "I hope there were no Real Madrid spies here tonight."

Behind his smile was the realization that he is heading for the unknown and perhaps fearing the worst. Mallorca are the first league visitors to Bilbao on Saturday. Only then will he be able to assess the magnitude of the task he has taken on.

Ominously, Derby County scored goals against his team far more easily than they would expect to do against most clubs in the higher reaches of the Football League, hardly an encouraging form guide when the likes of Barcelona and Real Madrid are lying in wait.

Two of Bilbao's best defenders are injured and that brings one of Kendall's big difficulties into sharp focus. The proud Basque club will not sign players from other regions. When Mountfield was injured at Everton I went out and signed Watson," he recalled nostalgically. "I can't do that sort of thing now."

In reshuffling and making do with his existing staff the former Goodison manager is changing players' roles, instilling discipline, seeking defensive understanding. He shrugs off the problem of communicating but the mere fact that he needed an interpreter alongside him on the touchline at the Baseball Ground to get his urgent messages across was ample evidence that it is not easy.

"I've had no real problems in that sense so far," he insisted. "The greatest difficulty is in getting the players to show to each other during a game. They just don't seem to do that."

It was easy to suspect that he set up the friendly against a

team who play in the direct English manner in order to show his players that there are aspects of our game they could take on board.

"We completely lost our shape and went to pieces after conceding goals," he confessed with thinly concealed alarm. "We learned more from being beaten in this way than in earning a good 1-1 draw against Torino when we played better. To be fair, the players are trying to learn new things in a short time and when they went wrong they were all over the place."

Kendall lives "over the shop" at the magnificent Bilbao training camp. Mallorca are the first league visitors to Bilbao on Saturday. Only then will he be able to assess the magnitude of the task he has taken on.

Kendall will also live with one important fact of football life in Spain, namely that neither the media nor the public grant that precious commodity, time. This much is emphasised by Ronnie Allen, who was a success at Bilbao two decades ago and is still a legendary figure there.

Allen was at Derby as a guest of the Spanish club and emphasized that the news of a 4-0 defeat would not be well received when the team arrived back. "Howard will find out very quickly how serious the public of Bilbao are about their football," Allen said. "If he does not get criticism for this defeat in the Press, the crowd will be looking for the right result on Saturday. It will be crucial for him because their fans put a great deal of importance on getting a winning start as a guide to the new season."

"He's taken on a heck of a hard job, and communication will be his greatest problem. He has had only one month and five friendly games to prepare. When I went over there it was in March, which gave me far more time to prepare ahead of time."

Allen has offered his services to the former Merseyside manager but, typically, Kendall intends to do it his own way.

# Callaghan pledges to Derby Wolves in clash over ban

Nigel Callaghan, Derby County's former England under-21 winger, yesterday reported that he had demanded a transfer but admitted that he was having trouble bridging the 'north-south' divide.

Callaghan took his problem to Arthur Cox, the Derby manager, who paid £125,000 to buy him from Watford last February, but yesterday he insisted: "I did not ask for a move and I am not planning to do so. I have found a difference between the north and south a problem but it is something I have got to work out."

Bruce Riech, the Middlesbrough manager, has warned off clubs interested in Gary Pallister, aged 22, central defender. Pallister first attracted attention during Middlesbrough's successful third division promotion campaign and Liverpool and Manchester United are among those believed to be watching him.

But Riech said: "It is important to keep my best players. We have a close-knit group and Pallister is among those committed to his local club."

David Leworthy, the Oxford United forward, is to join second division club Bourne on a month's loan with a view to a permanent move.

Queen's Park Rangers and Oxford have failed to agree a fee for the London club's recent signing Kevin Brock, a midfield player, so a League transfer tribunal will decide today.

Cardiff City supporters will have to buy their tickets in advance for the club's fourth division match with Wolves on September 5.

Celtic centre half, Mick McCarthy, will miss the Republic of Ireland's European Championship tie against Luxembourg at Lansdowne Road on September 9. McCarthy has a groin injury and stomach muscle strains. He is expected to be out of action for a month.

Brighton's £72,500 forward, Gary Lineker, could be back in action on Saturday, less than a fortnight after being stretched off with a suspected broken leg. Lineker carried 11 in last week's Littlewood Cup tie at Gillingham but the injury is not as bad as first feared. X-rays showed no break, only a badly sprained ankle.

## SHOW JUMPING

# Pyrah leads challenge to Schockemohle

From Jenny MacArthur, St Gallen, Switzerland

The British, fielding the same four riders who won the gold medal at the last European championships in 1985, are the favourites for this year's event, which starts tomorrow on the edge of this picturesque Swiss town.

Nine teams are contesting the championships, which involve a speed class tomorrow and a two-round Nations' Cup competition on Friday, after which the top 20 riders qualify for Sunday's final, competing for the individual title in which Paul Schockemohle, of West Germany, and Deister - now aged 16 and as accurate as ever - are going for their fourth successive European title.

Although Britain's four riders - Malcolm Pyrah, Nick Skelton, John and Michael Whitaker - are unchanged from two years ago, only Pyrah has the same horse. Towerlands Anglezarke is now 16 but his recent form, which included a double clear in the Nations' Cup event at Gijon last month, suggests that the pair, winners of the individual silver medal in 1981, could well be battling for individual honours again on Sunday.

One factor in the change of mind by Skelton is his close personal friendship with Wigan's New Zealand coach, Graham Lowe. In addition, Skelton is well aware that Wigan won four major trophies last season and are likely to win more this season.

John Whitaker has no such

## COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCES

The table shows how the top ten British performers' rate against the top ten in the world in each athletics event in 1974 and 1986. Comparison of the ratios for the two years shows how much British athletes have improved or deteriorated in relation to the rest of the world. For example in the 100 metres in 1974 British performances rated 96 per cent of the world figures; by 1986 our sprinters had improved to 98 per cent.

Event	Year	MEN			WOMEN		
		UK	World	Ratio	UK	World	Ratio
100m	1974	10.695s	10.233s	.96	11.839s	11.316s	.96
	1986	10.280s	10.058s	.98	11.532s	10.982s	.96
200m	1974	21.350s	20.532s	.96	23.820s	22.982s	.96
	1986	20.751s	20.226s	.97	23.450s	22.142s	.96
400m	1974	46.881s	45.289s	.97	51.011s	49.111s	.96
	1986	45.671s	44.591s	.98	53.025s	49.854s	.94
800m	1974	1m 47.44s	1m 44.84s	.98	2m 08.00s	1m 59.87s	.95
	1986	1m 45.24s	1m 44.162s	.99	2m 01.01s	1m 57.43s	.97
1,500m	1974	4m 42.87s	4m 38.92s	.97	4m 18.60s	4m 09.52s	.95
	1986	3m 34.63s	3m 33.37s	.98	4m 07.48s	4m 00.92s	.97
3,000m	1974	—	—	—	9m 25.17s	9m 02.07s	.96
	1986	—	—	—	8m 53.83s	8m 37.71s	.97
5,000m	1974	13m 33.18s	13m 28.51s	.99	—	—	—
	1986	13m 22.77s	13m 15.55s	.99	—	—	—
10,000m	1974	28m 19.64s	28m 05.24s	.99	—	—	—
	1986	28m 02.24s	27m 38.85s	.99	33m 10.19s	31m 32.55s	.96
3,000m	1974	9m 35.68s	9m 19.82s	.97	—	—	—
at chase	1986	8m 31.25s	8m 14.12s	.97	—	—	—
100m	1974	—	—	—	13.923s	13.076s	.95
hurdles	1986	—	—	—	13.933s	12.577s	.94
110m	1974	14.580s	13.609s	.93	—	—	—
	1986	13.873s	13.334s	.96	—	—	—
400m	1974	51.340s	49.307s	.96	—	—	—
	1986	50.378s	48.133s	.95	57.532s	54.067s	.93
High jump	1974	2.036m	2.23m	.91	1.787m	1.897m	.94
	1986	2.104m	2.251m	.93	1.883m	1.997m	.94
Pole vault	1974	4.748m	5.393m	.88	—	—	—
	1986	5.152m	5.857m	.87	—	—	—
Long jump	1974	7.504m	8.176m	.92	6.188m	6.660m	.93
	1986	7.724m	8.348m	.93	6.370m	7.196m	.89
Triple jump	1974	15.551m	16.855m	.92	—	—	—
	1986	16.200m	17.242m	.94	—	—	—
Shot	1974	16.109m	21.274m	.85	14.029m	19.921m	.70
	1986	17.588m	22.055m	.80	15.885m	21.038m	.76
Discus	1974	38.120m	46.320m	.82	40.500m	64.020m	.63
	1986	56.820m	67.340m	.84	52.872m	68.398m	.77
Hammer	1974	65.918m	74.510m	.89	—	—	—
	1986	68.310m	82.240m	.83	—	—	—
Javelin	1974	78.190m	86.940m	.89	48.980m	62.510m	.78
	1986	79.870m	83.240m	.91	55.450m	69.620m	.80
Decathlon	1974	6,802.8p	8,013.4p	.85	—	—	—
	1986	7,411.9p	8,421.6p	.88	—	—	—
Heptathlon	1974	—	—	—	5,624.9p	6,589.0p	.86
	1986	—	—	—	—	—	—

\* Event not contested in major meetings before 1986 (women).

\* Event not contested in major meetings before 1978 (women). Hurdle heights: men 1.06m; women 762m (ratio .93).

\* Men's shot 2.00kg; women's shot 4.00kg (ratio .55).

\* Men's discus 2.00kg; women's discus 1.00kg (ratio .50).

\* Men's javelin 800g; women's javelin 700g (ratio .75). New men's javelin introduced in 1986, produced 1.5 per cent drop in world records.

\* New scoring tables introduced in 1985; 1974 performances have been rechecked.

\* Event not contested in major meetings before 1981 (women).

## TENNIS

# Durie earns victory the hard way

From Barry Wood, Mahwah, New Jersey

Durie has slipped to No. 46 after a poor year.

Her 7-5, 6-4 victory was earned the hard way, and that is probably why she won. It is Miss Durie's habit to reach a winning position and then suffer agonies of self-doubt and crumble to defeat. Against Miss Fairbank she had to fight all the way and was never sure of winning until the last point.

Playing under an unseasonably cold night sky, Miss Durie broke serve in the twelfth game to win the first set and then took

advantage of three double faults from Miss Fairbank in the tenth game of the second to achieve her unlikely success.

Miss Graf, who was to defend her title, has had to withdraw as the result of some dental surgery taking longer than had been anticipated. The uncharismatic Helena Sukova is now top seed.

RESULTS: R. Perry (w) vs T. Scher, 6-1, 6-2; D. Durie (GB) vs R. Fairbank (USA), 7-5, 6-4; N. Tauziat (F) vs P. H. P. Phillips (USA), 2-6, 7-5, 6-2; S. Cuccinelli (USA) vs C. Tanner (F), 5-7, 6-4, 7-6; D. Balesstrini (AUS) vs H. Ne (FR), 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

# St Helens are pipped at the post

By Keith Macklin

League's by-laws in doing so. Wigan directors handed over the forms to League officials on Sunday at the Charity Shield game in the Isle of Man, and the formalities were completed at League headquarters yesterday.

The matter may not end there. St Helens are so furious that their chairman, Lawrence Prescott, has threatened to take legal action on the matter with a view to annulling St Helens' registration with Wigan on the grounds that he signed for St Helens first.

However, a Rugby League official said yesterday that signed forms were acknowledged only when they were officially registered at Leeds and St Helens had failed to do that.

One factor in the change of mind by St Helens is his close personal friendship with Wigan's New Zealand coach, Graham Lowe. In addition, St Helens is well aware that Wigan won four major trophies last season and are likely to win more this season.

Wigan appear to have stolen a march on their neighbours and rivals. St Helens, in completing the signing of the New Zealand international forward, Adrian Sheldford, St Helens announced that they had signed Sheldford nearly two months ago but Wigan started St Helens by registering Sheldford yesterday at Rugby League headquarters in Leeds.

St Helens failed because they did not get the necessary signed forms over to Leeds, whereas Wigan complied with the



### Pirroni's boat compared with conventional craft

**GLASGOW:** World tournaments: Australia 50, Trinidad 31, Jamaica 65, Northern Ireland 22, Malaysia 43, Bermuda 47; New Zealand 45, England 30; Canada 59, Sri Lanka 25; Cook Islands 52, Barbados 51; Scotland 43, Wales 26.

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